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THE BALLAD OF PIETRO MASCAG

Pietro Mascag was an artis' gran',
The patron saint of the hand organ man.

Mascag, he did write him the Inter-mez-zo,
It may be that Signor has heard it? So!

An' Pietro, he get him so very well known
He stan' by himself, in a class all alone.

One day a vera reech man from here,
He wrote him a letter: "Pietro, dear,

If you'll come to this countree good and queeck,
I give you say twenty-fi' dollar a week."

An' Pietro write back: "Make it twenty-seex,
An' maybe I come for a couple of weeks."

An' it was arrange'. He come to this land,
They meet him with flowers and shake his hand.

But up comes a cop. He arrests Pietro,
They all say, "Why, why?" The cop he don' know.

They let him go then, but take him again,
An' throw him in jail. Ah! the stone-hearted men.

But soon he gets loose, but, eh, what's the use?
They arrest him again. Carramb! What excuse?

You ask me for why? Yes, sir, an' I know
It all on account of that Inter-mez-zo.

An' the hand organ men who have play him all day,
So they say to Pietro: "In jail you mus' stay.

Or maybe you start up some other blame tune,
An' make us all nuts in our head pretty soon."

—New York Evening Sun.

THE MARYLAND LINE.

Remember the Revolution?
No child, though your grandsire fought
'Gainst the British troops on Long Island,
And liberty's blessing bought.
"By gosh!" he was fond of explaining,
"The sight was exceedingly fine
When Smallwood charged the invaders
At the head of the Maryland Line.

"We numbered," he said, "four hundred,
As we fronted the redcoat ranks,
But Washington's eye was upon us,
And we swore we would win his thanks.
When they marched, those bristling Britons,
We looked at our bold ensign,
And listened to Stirling's orders—
'Charge! boys of the Maryland Line!'

"Young Gist, our company's captain,
Led us into the thick of the fray—
A forlorn hope of line fellows—
To bear the brunt of that day.
'Good God!' cried the chief of the army,
As he noticed our musket's shine;
'What brave and devoted heroes
Must I lose of the Maryland Line!'

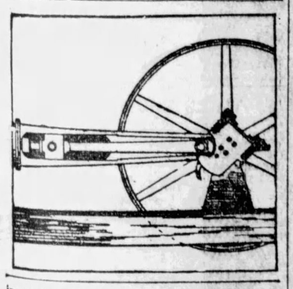
"We fell on the force of Cornwallis,
We struck for our country and flag;
Of all our Maryland patriots
Not a man of us thought to lag.
We fought as the valorous Spartans,
Who met the fierce Persian combine,
And bled for our homes and our freedom—
Half died of the Maryland Line.

"The charge that we made at Gowanus
Saved our army from slaughter and rout
And stayed the advance of the British,
While we took up the right-about,
Falling back on the lines at Harlem
And building both breastwork and mine,
As the English returned to their squadron,
Far off from the Maryland Line."

The brigade of the Balaklava—
We honor its grit and its pluck
That rode to its ruin and maiming,
While sabres their war-sparks struck;
But we love, child, with holy affection,
And deep in our bosoms enshrine,
The noble and faithful four hundred
Who charged in the Maryland Line.
—David Graham Ader, in the United States Magazine.

STEAM ENGINE IMPROVEMENT

The device shown in the accompanying drawing is adapted for use with any mechanism where a change from a reciprocating to a rotary movement is made, and, as this change of motion usually occurs in connection with reciprocating engines, it is in conjunction with a steam cylinder, reciprocating piston and revolving shaft that the invention is here presented. As will be seen, there is a head-block secured to the end of the shaft to replace the ordinary crank. This head-block is composed of two sections, which are normally clamped together and also held in place by stiff springs. The piston rod is secured to the face of the outer section on one edge, the action being exactly similar to that of an ordinary crank shaft. Whenever the piston rod stops in a horizontal position, or, in other words, at a dead centre, the small lever which is seen projecting beneath the head-block is thrown out and a pin



inserted to force the outer section to slide on the inner one and pull the connected end of the piston rod up far enough to throw it off the centre. At the first revolution of the engine the lever is automatically thrown back, and the two sections of the block locked together as before, insuring the rotation of the head-block as one piece until the engineer again throws the lever to pull the engine off the dead centre.

She Knew the Methods.

The country editor had turned the personal column over to his daughter temporarily, while politics claimed his attention.

The daughter had studied country editorial methods to some advantage, and the following items appeared:

"Tom Jones called last evening with a two-pound box of candy. Call again, Tom."

"Harry Mason was around with his trotter and sidebar buggy last week. Don't forget the number, Harry."

"George Brown's billboard is said to be good for two seats for anything that comes. We always like to see George on show nights."

"Miss Mary Martin, the milliner, has a magnificent display of the latest styles in her show window. How much is this good for, Mary?"—Chicago Post.

Properly Qualified.

"Have you a job here for a chauffeur?
"That depends. Have you ever done any chauffing?
"No, sir."
"Do you know anything about machinery?"
"Well, no, sir, I can't say that I"—
"And I suppose you never even drove over anybody in the street?"
"No, sir, but I once dropped with an aviator from the twelfth story and liked the sensation."
"Come around in the morning and be ready to go to work."—Chicago Record-Herald.

SOME OFT-REPEATED SAYINGS ABOUT SNOW

Snow is generally preceded by a general animation of man and beast, which continues until after the snowfall ends.

When the first snow remains on the ground some time in places not exposed to the sun, expect a hard winter.

When the snow falls dry, it means to lie;
But flakes light and soft bring rain oft.

Burning wood in winter pops more before snow.

When dry leaves rattle on the trees expect snow.

When in the ditch the snow doth lie,
'Tis waiting for more by and by.

It takes three cloudy days to bring a heavy snow.

If the snowflakes increase in size, a thaw will follow.

If there is no snow before January there will be the more snow in March and April.

In March much snow,
To plants and trees much woe.

The more snow, the more healthy the season.

Heavy snows in winter favor the crops of the following summer.

A snow year, a rich year.

Snow is the poor man's fertilizer, and good crops will follow a winter of heavy snowfall.

If much snow be spread on the mountains in winter, the season of planting will be made blue with verdure.

KEEPS TAB ON THE FARE REGISTER

The purpose of the inventor in designing the photographic machine here shown is to provide an automatic recording mechanism for registering any or all of the following data as shown by the fare register of a street car. The number

and class of passengers, the distance ridden by each, the approximate time and place of ingress and egress of each passenger, identifying the conductor, the car, the trip, the day or night and the approximate location of the car. Of course, to do all this work a more complex register must be used than the one here illustrated, but this gives the idea of the inventor, which is to so mount a camera in front of and slightly above the fare register as to photograph at intervals the face of the register. The latter may be more or less complicated, according to the necessity for keeping detailed accounts. The whole mechanism is beyond the control of the conductor, who has nothing to do, but show the proper figures on his register, which he cannot fail to do if the automatic recorder is made to note the entrance or exit of each rider on the car as he enters the door or leaves it. While the mechanism seems too expensive and complicated for ordinary street railway use it might serve a purpose on long distance lines where higher fares prevail.

HUMOR OF THE DAY.

In Cherokee county, this state, lives Elijah Houston, one of the old ante-bellum darkies who will soon see his one hundredth year. The local paper says he is "hale and hearty, and still finds strength to make plenty of hog and hominy." Of this worthy member of his race Brother Dickey said:

"Hit's des lak I tol' you—de good niggers live a long time in Georgia, en dey friends never makes any motion ter lynch 'em."—Atlanta Constitution.

Men who, by referring to Lincoln as rail splitter, attempt to make the lowly laborer satisfied with his lot forget to mention that Lincoln gave up rail splitting as soon as possible.

It isn't what a man earns but what his wife doesn't spend that finally enables him to arouse the envy of his neighbors.

Bad luck gets the blame for a lot of poor judgment.—Chicago Record-Herald.

"Did you get any bears on your hunting trip?"

"No, we didn't get any bears. But the trip was a success nevertheless. The guide assured us that he had every reason to believe that the bears were more scared than we were."—Washington Star.

Old Lady—Hello, my little man! I hope you try to be a nice, good little boy?

The Youngster—Yes'm, in 'bout two weeks. 'Taint quite clost 'nough t' Christmas yet.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

"Is he good at figures?"

"Well, rather. He can make almost anything out of nothing. Why, he's the man who takes a city directory and figures out a population half again as large as the government census gives."—Chicago Post.

"I tell you, old man, I would like to be over in the Philippines and see a town sacked."

"You don't have to go to the Philippines; just be in St. Louis when the boodlers are at work."—Chicago Daily News.

BE GOOD WHERE YOU ARE

It was a naughty, mud-stained, sobbing little maiden, partly cross, but partly repentant, too, perhaps—who knows?—who was approached by a gentle relative with an offer to tell her "how to be a good girl and go to heaven."

"I don't want to be a good girl and go to heaven," emphatically responded the small tempest. "I want to be a girl that is good 'nough to stay where I are."

There might have been considerable petulance in the reply, but there was some sound wisdom also. The being good where we are is what the world most needs of us, and what we most need for ourselves. It is not people who are ready to be translated, but people who are ready to conduct the affairs of this life on a righteous basis, who are in demand. The persons who are always anxious about "being good enough to go to heaven" are seldom the ones who are making a little heaven about them where they are.—Presbyterian Banner.

After Meeting.

"Does you believe in clothin' de heathen?"

"No; all dey needs is umbrellas!"

Hives heavy with honey, cider for a song, and everybody feeling just like singing!—Atlanta Constitution.

CAINE'S TWO ROMAS.

Manx Dramatist Expounds His Views of the American Public.

Hall Caine, the Manx dramatico-novelist, has at last decided to sail for England and leave his play, The Eternal City, to its fate. It was announced twice last week that he was ready to leave and last Wednesday and last Saturday were fixed as sailing days for him. Now he says that he will leave on the Majestic next Wednesday. He was seen at the Plaza Hotel, where he expounded his views of the two Romas and the American theatregoing public. He was willing to grant that those who contended that the expurgation of Roma's character weakened The Eternal City were supporting a perfectly legitimate criticism.

"I think," he added, "that it is one with which Mr. Beerbohm Tree, who is playing in the English production, would sympathize. But I had to consider the American public and its demands.

"I wish to draw a decided distinction between the novelist and the dramatist. The novelist has a message; the dramatist's prime purpose is to amuse. Should I write a novel to please one public and then change it to meet the popular cry of another I would be nothing but a 'literary time server.' But in the drama one must consider his manager, his theatre and the company that depends upon the success of the play for salaries; so when those come to me who said that Roma's character must be regenerated for the American public I naturally listened to them, and when I consider the financial success the American version is meeting with they seem to me to have justified themselves."

When asked if Roma's character had been purified at Miss Allen's instigation, Mr. Caine said emphatically:

"No, I think she fully appreciated the dramatic possibilities in the original character. I know very little about American morals, and so I followed the advice of those who did. They said that the American public would not stand the original Roma. 'She must not have sinned with Romelli—she must not have this stain on her character,' they said."

Mr. Caine detailed the plot of the English production, and when he had finished said enthusiastically:

"There truly is tragic motive there, is there not?"

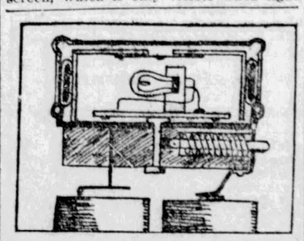
When asked if he was disappointed with the American production he would not reply directly.

"Fortunately it has been all I could wish," he said. "You must understand that I am angry in no way with the critics. In fact, I have paid no attention whatever to the newspaper criticisms. But I have been told they have said some harsh things about me. I am the best abused man in England, and I go along because I make no reply. I would like to say some things before I leave, and I may—I have not yet made up my mind. I do not want to offend either side."

The novelist playwright said that he was interested in the romantic and dramatic possibilities of the Italian war for independence.—New York Evening Sun.

OF INTEREST TO THE PHOTOGRAPHER

The illustration shows the details of a photometer for comparing the relative values of a measured light with that prevailing where a picture is to be taken. Two dry batteries are connected with a small incandescent lamp, which is located behind a translucent screen, with means for varying the intensity of the rays emitted by the filament of the lamp. Let us supose that the light to be measured is projected against one side of the screen, with this lamp shining on the opposite side. If the measuring light causes the exposed face of the screen to glow or makes visible an opaque image or one less translucent than the screen, which is only visible when light



is transmitted through the screen, it follows that the measuring light is stronger than the light outside of the photometer. Assuming this condition to exist, if the measuring light be gradually decreased its illuminating effect upon the exposed face of the screen will gradually fade away and eventually vanish. When this vanishing point is reached it may be assumed that the light to be measured is equal to that in the instrument, and the operator has only to look on his gauge which controls the power of the incandescent lamp to find the value of its light rays. With the knowledge of this value it is an easy matter to adjust the diaphragm and time the exposure of the plate.

More to Follow.

Sylvester—She is a woman with a past, I understand.

Randolph—Yes, and more coming.—Baltimore Sun.

A PRESENTIMENT.

A Wife Worries to Be Safe When She Is Safe.

The woman in the boarding house who has presentiments concerning fires had one Tuesday night. It's always a dismal occasion for her better half when she takes these turns, for then he has to clamber out of bed, don a bath robe and go down stairs and look about, peering into dark drawing rooms and the Stygian gloom under the stairs, but he relieves his wife's mind, and that, when one comes to think of it, is a good deal.

Tuesday night, when he descended to the ground floor, he found, as usual, no flames in sight, and not even a merry little spark to reward him for his search so he looked at the pictures in the drawing room a bit, so that the length of his absence might convince the scared lady upstairs he was making a very thorough search indeed, and—ran into some returning theatregoers when he went out into the hall.

It is the firm belief of the writer that the reason no man is a hero to his valet is because his valet sees him in his bath robe. No masculine is an imposing figure so attired, but to the eternal credit of this one it may be said that he did not run when confronted by the people in evening dress. He simply drew the folds of his toga more closely about him and went up the steps as fast as dignity and as slowly as embarrassment would permit.

He was met at the top by his wife.

"There is no fire," said he, sternly.

"If there isn't, there will be," replied she is solemn tones. "This house will burn down tonight. I have a presentiment that it will, and my presentiments always come true. Help me to get ready for the awful denonement."

But that wrethed man was already asleep, so the woman had to prepare things herself. She took all of her jewelry, put it in its cases and placed them in a drawer in a chiffonier that stood near the door of the room. She stuck her stickpin in a handkerchief and added them to the collection. Then she pulled the drawer out half way, so that any one passing, even in a dead run, could seize it and carry it along. She dragged by main force a small trunk containing a silver tea service, forks and spoons, from under the bed, took the cretonne cover of it and placed it where the firemen could reach it easily. Then she piled her husband's and her own clothes on chairs, also for the convenience of the firemen, and retired.

The next morning it was a very surprised woman who was awakened by the peaceful ringing of the rising bell, so surely had she expected to wake up to the tune of clanging gongs and hoarse shoutings.

"I'm really very disappointed," said she, as she watched her husband stumble over a trunk and extricate, with a strangled word, his dress suit from a mass of clothing which had just slid to the floor from a chair.

"If prestnitments are not a cause for divorce in this state, I'll move to one where they are the next time you have one," rejoined her companion savagely. "I wish you would be sensible." And then there was a gloomy silence in the room.—Baltimore News.

MACHINE FOR SAVING THE SOAP

There is no question but that more soap is wasted in hotel and other lavatories than is used, owing to the carelessness in leaving it in the water to dissolve rapidly, and as numerous cakes are stolen by patrons of the house the soap bill often reaches a respectable figure. In Paris an inventor has lately introduced a soap-saving machine which does not permit the patron of the hotel to have free access to the cake of soap, but compels him to shave it off in small quantities. This, of course, eliminates the desire to steal the soap, as it is valueless for anything but immediate use; and no one would be likely to waste his time in grinding out more soap than is needed for the time being. The picture gives an idea of the manner of mounting the machine, and also has one side of the casing cut away to expose the interior mechanism. There is a short cylinder, in which the cake of soap is placed, with a spring to force it down against the surface of the cylindrical scraper or rasp. The latter is mounted on a shaft, with a crank projecting outside the casing, and a few turns of the cylinder will cut a sufficient quantity of soap for the operator's use, discharging it into the hand held beneath the opening in the bottom of the casing. To refill the chamber it is necessary to unlock the lid with a key and remove the spring feed, when a fresh cake can be dropped in place.

HE "DIDN'T DAST."

There is considerable risk attached to loaning books at a public library, for the "borrowers" not infrequently move away without going through the ceremony of returning the books.

To minimize this risk each patron is required to fill out a blank form, on which some reliable person signifies his willingness to be responsible for the books loaned.

A librarian in one of the suburban branches was recently hard put to it to find a guarantor for a diminutive lad who was anxious to join. Apparently the youth in question had no influential friends to vouch for him. Suddenly the librarian had an inspiration.

"Do you live around here?" she asked.

The would-be borrower answered in the affirmative.

"Did you ever buy groceries in the store on the corner?"

Again he assented.

"Well, go over and ask the grocer to sign for you. He'll do it," she concluded with a relieved air.

But blackest gloom enveloped the youth as he replied:

"Oh, I wouldn't dast! We owe him eight dollars an' sixteen cents, an' my mother see 'taint no use to pay, him once cos we're goin' to move soon!"

Needless to say, after this unexpected glimpse of the family ethics the prospective member was allowed to gain his ideas of current literature from the neighborhood billboards.—Philadelphia Telegraph.

DOWN HOCKING

A STORY OF OHIOANS.

By S. S. KNABENSHUE.

CHAPTER XV.

Mr. Morton was sitting in his private office in his bank, though it was long after business hours, and all the attaches of the institution had gone home. His face wore a perpleaxed look, for some things had been occurring in New York stock circles which he did not fully understand.

The gentleman was in the deal to dispossess the syndicate which had, by a coup, obtained control of the stock of the Hocking & Ohio River railroad, and which had also gotten control of the newly-organized coal company. There were four things which mare him go into this deal with all the energy he possessed. First and foremost, if the matter could be engineered to the point of success it would mean a large financial profit; second, he had been turned out of the directorate of the road by the overturn of its control; third, the union of the coal operators of the valley into one company was his own scheme, and just as he had accomplished it the control of the organization perforce passed to the owners of the railroad as well. Fourth, and last, he did not like Darius Tallman. That gentleman and himself had been business rivals for years, and it was added bitterness to the ousting of himself from the railroad and coal companies—or rather from the position of a controling spirit by his rival—and a rival in his own home. The pill would not have ben half so bitter had Mr. Tallman not been concerned in the matter.

Immediately upon the failure of Sprague & Kinney, Mr. Morton had opened telegraphic communication with his old associates in control of the railroad, and proposed an audaciously bold scheme to recover it. The failure caused the stock to fall sharply. His plan was simply to prevent a reaction in its price. He knew that the syndicate which had obtained control was composed of men who had invested a great deal of borrowed capital to purchase that advantage. He felt sure that the majority of them were in the same situation as was Mr. Tallman. If the stock could be kept at a low price through a well-engineered movement to systematically "bear" it, many of their stock would have to be sold to extricate themselves from their difficulties, as we have seen was the case with Mr. Tallman, who had already been obliged to part with a portion of his holdings that had been put up as security for borrowed money. Every influence that could be brought to bear, known to the sharp practice of stock speculators, was at work to prevent a rise in Hocking & Ohio River stock.

So far these tactics had been successful, and it seemed that in a very short time the syndicate's holdings would be less than a majority of the stock, and the control would pass. The day just closing had seen Mr. Talman's resignation from the presidency of the rival bank, which was not only a matter of personal satisfaction to Mr. Morton, and another indication that the former would be forced to sell out his railway holdings. But, on the other hand, there was disgusting news from New York. There had been for several days an increasing buying demand for Hocking & Ohio River stock. Whenever a bid was made there was a rush of apparently eager sellers. But the demand had suddenly increased on the day in question, and at the close the price had risen several points. And a large lot of stock had been purchased.

Now, what caused that demand, and who were the actual buyers? Mr. Morton knew where most of the stock was held. He knew how much the syndicate still held, and to a dollar how much was owned by himself and his associates. There was a considerable number of shares, however, scattered among a number of small holdings. Of course, to be expected Mr. Tallman's New York associates were doing their best to retain control and also to force up the price. The sudden buying demand might mean that they had gotten others interested in their end of the struggle, and that this demand was to be credited to such a source. Or it might mean that outside operators had fathomed the fact that the ruling price for the stock was much lower than the condition of the road's business warranted; that they were acute enough to see it was "a good thing," and had become buyers.

It was of the greatest importance to determine which it might be; and Mr. Morton had been using the wires freely between his office and New York in the effort to inform himself. But his friends there were as much at sea as was Mr. Morton. It would take the course of the market on the following day to reveal the situation, was the extremely unsatisfactory information with which he had so far been obliged to content himself.

There was still a message of inquiry unanswered—sent to an old-time friend in the Street, but one not connected in any way with either of the struggling elements seeing to retain or obtain control of the railroad.

"Why does not Howson answer me?" exclaimed Mr. Morton impatiently to himself. "He is scrupulous in replying to any inquiry—makes it a point of business to do so. He must be waiting for information from some source."

Mr. Morton paced the floor of his office impatiently, chewing on the end of an unlighted cigar. He even went to the window and watched down the street, that he might see a telegraph boy leave the Western Union office, a square below, with the wished-for message. Two or three times his eye flashed as a boy started out with a little manila envelope in his hand; but none of them came to Mr. Morton. It began to look as though Howson would not reply. The day on the stock exchange had long been over. In his mind's eye, Mr. Morton could see the brokers at lunch, or making their way up-town, for their homes.

"At last!" he breathed, as a messenger boy came darting across the street and through the door. Without waiting to receipt for the message, he tore it open, read it twice, then folded it up carefully and put it into his pocket, before he signed the messenger's book.

"Any answer?" demanded the boy. Receiving a shake of the head, he started off whistling.

Then Mr. Morton took out the message, sat himself down at his desk, lighted a fresh cigar, and took up the task of determining his course of procedure. The dispatch read:

"Not known yet on the Street, but buying Hocking & Ohio is by Huntingdon interest. Believed they want control, for northwestern connection for Chesapeake & Ohio road. Barnes, Ziegfeld and others of that clique have sold their holdings today, and Huntingdon people probably control majority stock."

Mr. Morton's first feeling was one of helpless fury, for Barnes and Ziegfeld were the men associated with himself in the effort to again get the railway into their hands. They had simply abandoned the project—and for a very satisfactory price, no doubt. He had no fear of losing money because of this new and unexpected development; for when it should be known that the Huntingdon crowd had purchased the road the stock would bound upward—and if he desired to sell, he could make a tidy profit off his holdings.

Yes, and so could Mr. Tallman! That was another drop of gall in Mr. Morton's cup of discomfiture. He knew exactly haw many shares Mr. Tallman still had; and, picking up a pencil, he figured a minute or two on the back of an envelope.

"Hocking stock will advance twenty or twenty-five points. If it goes up twenty points, Tallman will come out without any loss whatever—yes, and be fully five thousand dollars better off than he was when he went into the syndicate!"

Well, there was no way of helping the matter now. The Chesapeake & Ohio people had seen that the stock was unreasonably low; they had determined. It seemed, to scoop it in, if possible, and give them what would certainly be a very valuable connection into the northwest. They had sounded his own partners, and bought these gentlemen out. They certainly were sure of control, or they would have negotiated for his own holdings.

Yes, it was certain the struggle of the two factions for control of the road was over. It was as if, while two terriers were quarreling over a bone, a mastiff should come along and appropriate it. There was no use of wasting time or effort further in the matter. And with this philosophic reflection, Mr. Morton closed his desk and went home to dinner, his manner to the acquaintances he met on the street not betraying the defeat of his well-laid schemes.

But Mr. Morton was not the only person in Doncaster who heard the astonishing news. Mr. Tallman had been keeping a close and hopeful watch upon the New York stock market also. When the buying movement set in, it inspired him with the hope that perhaps his affairs were not so desperate as he had feared. The anxiety with which he watched its development was simply painful.

This was the same day that he had practically been forced to resign his position at the head of the bank, and that had so occupied his mind that he had not telegraphed for private information. When he left the bank, and started in his buggy for his suburban residence, he stopped at the telegraph office long enough to send a message to his broker.

"Send the answer to my home, will you?" he said to the manager. "No—you might as well use the telephone. That will do just as well."

"Very well, Mr. Tallman."

The old man shut himself in his library, and wrestled in spirit with the humiliation he had suffered that day. He was not by nature a patient individual; and he let his righteous wrath spend itself when he was alone. He had given the order—"I don't want to be bothered with any telephone messages this evening. The telegraph company will call me up with a message or two. I suppose, but if any one else calls up, just say I'm not at home."

And that order was why George Barnard failed to get satisfaction when he anxiously called for the old gentleman by wire. And while George was commiserating his misfortunes to Philip Rosser, Mr. Tallman was reading a dispatch which mystified him quite as much as the same news had Mr. Tallman. It told of heavy purchases of the stock, at an advance of five points.

Another message of inquiry was speedily on its way to New York, and it was to the same broker, Howson, to whom Mr. Morton had wired. The two men were awaiting the same information, from the same source.

And while the messenger was crossing the street with Mr. Morton's answer, the telegraph clerk was reading another message, identical in wording, through the telephone to Mr. Tallman.

"Send me that dispatch, by messenger, quick!" commanded the latter. "Tell the boy to come on his wheel, and to rush, if he wants to make a dollar extra!"

The news seemed too good to be true. He would not believe it until he read the dispatch. Dropping a dollar into the boy's hand, he seated himself and studied the pregnant message.

His eyes sparkled with satisfaction, as heh read and re-read it. He realized its preport. As soon as the stock exchange met tomorrow the news would be public, and the stock would go bounding upward. Not only would he be able to extricate himself from all his embarrassments, but the two serious losses laready suffered would be retrieved, and more. And there was a little personal satisfaction in knowing that Mr. Morton's friends had sold out.

He rushed a message to one of his own party in New oYrk, and received a reply which removed all doubt as to the whole matter. Then Mr. Tallman surprised his family by disposing of a very hearty dinner with a marvelously good appetite, and displaying an unwonted flow of good spirits. His wife asked the cause.

"Bless your soul, my dear," was the reply, "the Huntingdon crowd has bought control of the road—my troubles are over—and within a month I'll have my losses all made up and have made a big profit, besides!"

Then, woman-like, she leaned back in her chair, and took "a good cry"—but they were tears of joy, not of sorrow.

CHAPTER XVI.

Several times I made an effort to bring the conversation around to the point at which I could start the talk which I had planned, and which I hoped would lead up eventually to the declaration of love, followed at once by a proposal of marriage. For, remember this, young man: the lady who permits you to declare love, without coupling it closely with a proposal, either is more ignorant—or innocent, for the two are sometimes synonymous—than a young woman of marriageble age should be, or there is laxity in her training which is to be deplored. Yes, the novelists are to blame somewhat; for, in the majority of cases, when they depict such a scene, they appear to take it for granted, or allow you to assume, that the young couple whose loves they are describing consider a declaration of love and a proposal of marriage to be practically the same thing. They are not by any manner or means.

But, try as I would, I could not twist matters around so that the conversation would naturally gravitate toward the starting-point of the declaration and proposal that I desired to make. Once or twice the suspicion crossed my mind that Elsie knew perfectly well what I was aiming at, and was quietly thwarting my purpose. But when I looked into her pure face, pale and troubled over her uncle's misfortunes, her glorious eyes clouded, I felt that I was foolish for harboring such a thought.

Finally, I grew desperate. My courage seemed all oozing out through my finger-tips, and I felt that I must either break through the conversational hedge, which seemed to bar my way, or abandon my intention. And the latter was not to be thought of! I had started the conversation three times along the line of my impending departure for Southern Mexico. Elsie had evinced a friendly interest in the project, and had expressed her wishes that the enterprise would prove a success; but I was so blundering and confused that I did not take advantage of certain points in the conversation that would have given me an opening, had I not fatuously clung to the idea of the cut-and-dried conversation I had mentally planned. The advice may be superfluous to the young men of today; but if any of them is preparing to propose to a young lady, let him avoid picturing out the scene in advance, or planning what he will say, what she will say, what he will answer, what she will reply, and so on, until the desired and desirable consummation is reached. Don't do it, for it will never work out as you plan and anticipate. One must go into the matter like a skirmisher going into battle—without the slightest idea wher he is going to land, but alert to take advantage of the earliest opportunity.

The clock on the mantel clicked on monotonously, but rapidly, and the hands seemed to be racing around the dial. I grew more desperate. Finally I reached a point at which I abandoned the foolish idea of bringing the conversation around to the point for which I had been scheming. I determined to take advantage of the first opening which the conversation might offer. It came almost immediately.

Elsie could not keep her mind off the misfortunes of Mr. Tallman, and said:

"I do wish Uncle Darius had not gone into any railroad operation! Papa was always opposed to it, for he said uncle is not familiar enough with the stock market. If he had not, how happy we should all be tonight!"

"That's true, Miss Elsie, so far as Mr. Tallman and his relatives and friends are concerned. But it is not true as regards myself."

Her starry eyes widened in astonishment. "Why, what can you mean? I know Uncle Darius thinks a vast deal of you, and I believed that you—"

"Pardon me, but you mistake my meaning. I am as sincere a friend and well-wisher of Mr. Tallman as any one can possibly be. I regret his misfortunes. What I mean was, that had he not gone into this railway deal, I should possibly and probably never had more than a merely casual acquaintanceship with you, and—"

I stopped short, for the door opened, and Mr. Holland appeared. He greeted me in a most friendly, though preoccupied manner, for his air was troubled. He sat down, and immediately began talking of Mr. Tallman's troubles.

"We were just discussing the matter, papa," said Elsie. "Mr. Rosser is one who suffers as well as the rest of us. He is going to Southern Mexico to look up some coffee lands."

"Bless my soul! To Southern Mexico! Well, well! I have always believed there was a great deal of money in that business. Pray tell me about it!"

It was evident that Mr. Holland had the spirit of a speculator. He evinced the most lively interest in the coffee plantation project, and asked innumerable questions, to all of which I gave the fullest replies possible. Elsie joined in the conversation at all points, and it was a matter of surprise to me to note that the troubled look on her face had disappeared. Her eyes shone, the color mounted to her cheeks, and her old-time vivacity returned. Oh, if she had only been like that at the beginning of my call!

Meanwhile the clock ticked off the minutes monotonously, and the hands kept up their absurdly rapid rate of travel around the dial. Did Mr. Holland propose to give us the pleasure of his company for the whole evening? I began to fear that such was the case.

The door opened again, and Miss Lavinia stood in the doorway.

"Good evening, all! Why, Mr. Rosser, I am glad to see you again today. Don't fail to pay me a parting call before you start for the coffee fields of Mexico!—Mr. Holland, I wish to see you, if you please. We will go into the library, and allow these young folks to have this parlor to themselves."

There were times when Miss Lavinia showed the talent of a born leader. Or, perhaps, I might better say that there were times when she exercised her woman's wit at the proper time, and wound men about her fair fingers at her own sweet will. This was certainly one of the times. She had somehow fathomed the purpose of my call, and had spirited away the unconscious marplot, Mr. Holland.

As the door closed behind them, I determined to take no further chances of interruption. Elsie was seated upon a sofa at one side of the room. I strode across and seated myself without ceremony.

"Your father interrupted something I was on the point of saying, and which I wish very much to say," I began, without preface.

"Have I given you permission to say it?" Elsie interrupted, turning a saucy face toward me. But there was a tenderness in the glance that gave me the courage I had been wanting the entire evening.

"There are times when it is a man's privilege to speak without permission," I replied promptly. "The general who is about to storm a position does not send a flag of truce with a request that he be granted leave to begin an attack."

Her face became rosy red. "Yet he advances to the attack at his own peril," came from her lips, in saucy defiance.

"Do you remember the old quatrain written by the Marquis of Montrose?

"He either fears his fate too much,
Or his deserts are small,
Who dares not put it to the touch
To gain or lose it all!'

"That is exactly the way I feel this moment. I have loved you from the first time I saw you. I wish you for my wife. There is no higher compliment any man can pay a woman than to say those words to her, and to mean them as deeply as I do. Elsie—"

There came a thundering ring at the bell, and whoever it was demanding entrance did not wait for admission, but opened the door and walked into the hall. We both sprang to our feet.

"Uncle Darius!" breathed Elsie in a whisper. But her hand sought mine, it seemed involuntarily, and we stood listening without speech.

We heard Mr. Tallman enter the library, the sound of eager, jubilant conversation, and then the door opened and Uncle Darius, Mr. and Mrs. Holland and Miss Lavinia came into the room, every face smiling.

"What is it?" asked Elsie, eagerly.

And amid a chorus of interruptions and exclamations, we learned of the second coup by which the Hocking & Ohio River road had been purchased by the Chesapeake & Ohio people, and that Mr. Tallman was delivered at a stroke from his financial difficulties.

Miss Lavinia stood watching Elsie and myself, as we stood side by side. "Well, Mr. Rosser," said she, with a mischievous glance, "you will not be a railroad man, that is evident. So let us hope that your coffee speculation will turn out to be less troublesome and worrying, to say the least, than Mr. Tallman's effort in controlling railroads."

"Coffee speculation? What's that?" said Mr. Tallman, tweaking his nose so vigorously that it glowed like a beacon light. "Tell me what this is all about, Rosser."

So we all sat down, I taking my place by Elsie on the sofa. I explained briefly the matter. Mr. Tallman asked question after question.

"That's all right, Rosser," said he finally. "Go down, investigate the matter, make your report, and get your pay for it; but don't go and bury yourself down in that tropical country. There are too many opportunities for a young man here in Ohio for you to put yourself out of the world. How long will it take you to investigate and return?"

"Eight or ten weeks," I replied.

"Then by the time you get back I will be ready for you. I want you to settle down here in Doncaster to practice your profession. I will give you my personal business, and put you on the road to a good practice at once. I like you, young man, and I want to make up to you for the failure of the expectations I held out in the railway business."

I was expressing my thanks when Miss Lavinia again interposed her benevolent offices in my behalf. Smiling across the room at Elsie, she said:

"Elsie, you haven't congratulated Mr. Rosser on the professional opening your uncle has offered him."

Elsie's pretty face showed the rosy flag of embarrassment. Just at that time I naturally felt courageous. Taking the girl's unresisting hand, I turned to the others.

"There is but one thing else I desire—and that is to have Elsie for my wife, Mr. and Mrs. Holland, may I have your consent?"

Then there was another scene of congratulation, amid which Mr. Tallman tweaked his nose with renewed vigor, interspersing the exercise with exclamations of astonishment and approval. In fact, he seemed to be the only one in the party who was really taken by surprise.

Finally, they all left Elsie and me alone. I took her hand once more in mine, and said: "Elsie, there is one thing I still lack."

"What is that?"

"Your consent. Your parents have kindly given theirs, Mr. Tallman and Miss Lavinia have congratulated us, but you have not said 'yes.'"

"You had my consent and knew you had it, or you would have said nothing when they came into the room."

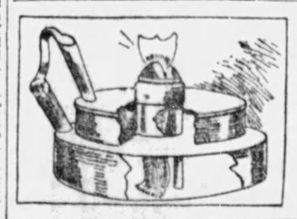
And that provoking girl never said "yes" until she answered it to the minister in the wedding ceremony.

The author submits the above story to The Weekly Blade with diffidence. There are a vast number of people who object to fiction because it is fiction. "Down Hocking" is true in its main incidents. There is nothing of fiction in it but the "broidery of words" in which the conversations are given. The unities of time as to some of the principal events has not been preserved; but this was necessary in order to bring the events into closer connection than was true of their real occurrence. The characters are all real personages. The author asks the kindly consideration of his readers for the story, and begs to remind them that actual happenings but very seldom lend themselves too rapid and harmonious action when related in story form. If it has pleased the readers of The Blade, the author feels himself amply repaid for his work; and he would be glad to hear the frank opinion of those who have read it. So, he tells me, would the editor, that he may be guided by these expressions of opinion in the selection of future stories for publication.

THE END.

WATER JACKET ON THE LAMP

While the use of electricity and gas for lighting purposes is becoming almost universal in our cities the country homes must still depend upon the common kerosene lamp to dispel the darkness at night. It is but natural that a simple and safe light should be desired to carry around when going from room to room, and it is a lamp designed to meet these requirements which is shown in the accompanying drawing. This lamp not only makes a provision for the discharge of explosive gases, without permitting them to come in contact with the flame, but it is also provided with a water jacket, which prevents the heat of the



flame from acting on the oil in the reservoir, thus reducing to a minimum the vaporization of the fluid. As is shown here, the lamp is stripped of all attachments, and presents simply the oil reservoir, the water pocket, the wick and filling tubes, the latter serving as a handle for transporting the lamp about. Beside the wick is seen a small tube leading downward from the cavity surrounding the wick, and it is by this tube that the gases rising from the surface of the oil are carried through the bottom of the lamp to the open air. The same principle can be applied to any pattern of lamp from a fancy piano light to a small affair for hatching eggs in an incubator.

An Outside View of It.

"De jedge give him ten days fer stealin' a 'possum, but Providence wuz on his side."

"Providence?"

"Dat's what I said. Ef he'd stole a turkey, he'd ar got ten years!"—Atlanta Constitution.

Philanthropic Smith.

First Member—I hear that Smith sends everything he shoots to the hospitals instead of to the game dealer.

Second Member—How awfully good of him; what does he go in for mostly—ducks, quail or deer?

First Member—No; he only shoots guides, and he's got to send them to the hospital.—Chicago Tribune.

Ambiguous.

"What is Jenks doing lately?"

"Looking for trouble principally."

"Does he find it?"

"Doesn't have a bit of trouble."—Kansas City Journal.

Not a Question of Size.

"He thinks he's a big gun in politics."

"Isn't he?"

"Well, he may be big enough, but lots of big guns are going into the scrap heap these days."—Chicago Evening Post.

PRECIOUS STONES.

Ancient Superstitions In Regard to Certain Gems.

As England and her visitors have of late been fairly dazzled with precious stones, it is not impossible that the ancient superstitions in regard to gems may to some extent be revived among the overcredulous. Many and quaint were these ancient superstitions. The Romans firmly believed that the diamond worn on the left arm would keep away all nightmares and ward off insanity. Moreover, before drinking wine from a strange hand they would glance at their diamond first to see if it were clear or clouded and moist—the latter state demonstrating plainly the presence of poison in the cup.

In many nations the royal diamond has been regarded as the dwelling place of the spirit of the king. Especially in regard to the Koh-i-Noor was this the case, and when it fell into the possession of the British crown the people of India gave up all hope of retaining their ancient kingdom.

The ruby has many virtues, according to the superstitious. It protected dwellings from tempest and from the encroachments of ants. It also strengthened the faith of lovers. Like cures like, so that if ruby lips are apt to go astray the stone after which they are named prevents them from doing it. But we suspect that this superstition arose out of woman's very natural desire that her lover should buy rubies for her—to keep her faithful to him.

The sapphire cures boils, heals the blind and extinguishes fires. This last power is much discounted by the fact that Richard de Preston's famous sapphire, which was hung in old St. Paul's Cathedral, perished there in the fire, instead of putting it out. But then we do not know whether its virtue may not have been spent in curing too many boils and weak eyes. A sapphire cannot do everything.

The emerald, like the sapphire, has the power of restoring sight, but with serpents it possesses the faculty of blinding them. The emerald is better even than the ruby for keeping, or rather testing, the faith of lovers. There is a verse which runs:

It is a gem which hath the power to show
If plighted lovers keep their faith or no.
If faithful, it is like the leaves of spring;
If faithless, like those leaves when withering.

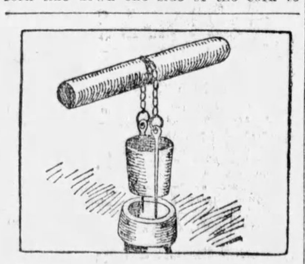
Under such conditions a man would be a fool to present his sweetheart with an emerald; hence the superstition was not invented by the women.

The topaz is perhaps the most marvelous of gems. It will enable you to fall from a height of hundreds of feet without hurting yourself, because it attracts to itself the whole force of the "concussion." The topaz stops bleeding. So will most stones—in a tournament. It reduces boiling water to blood heat in two seconds. This in itself is a useful thing to know. The amethyst is wonderful, too, in that it prevents people getting drunk. But this may be taken in two senses. Does this gem create a dislike for strong drink or does it enable one to drink his companions under the table, and then go out and take the morning air.

But if the foregoing gems are wonderful the crystal is the most occult of all. It has been used from time immemorial for the purpose of seeing visions, and in the present day, especially in America, crystal gazing is a pretty trade. Perhaps the most famous magic crystal is that of Dr. Dee and Edward Kelly, preserved to this day in the Ashmolean museum. It is said that even Queen Bess sought unto these wizards that did peep and mutter—and on worthy matters of state, too. Of course, the crystal cures insanity. It is strange what a number of gems can do. Are we to infer, then, that the believers in this extraordinary virtue never possessed any of these gems? Or if they possessed them, why in the name of all that is occult did not they apply the cure they so strongly believed in?

A SIMPLE CORK EXTRACTOR

There is always an opening for a neat and compact device which will extract a cork from a bottle without loss of time and without breaking the cork so that it cannot be used to reseal the bottle. That is just whatis claimed for the little implement which we illustrate in the accompanying picture. Nearly everybody has tried sticking a knife blade or fork tine down one side of the cork to



pry it from the bottle, generally with very indifferent success, but who ever thought of inserting a blade or tine on each side of the cork, and then twisting them simultaneously in opposite directions? This is the idea of the invention. The device consists of two sharp steel prongs, connected by a small chain, with a wooden handle at the center of the chain to afford the hand a grip for twisting the spikes. The latter are pressed as far as possible into the neck of the bottle on opposite sides of the cork, then the handle is given a few turns, until the chain tightens and begins to draw the heads of the spikes toward each other, when the cork will twist in the neck of the bottle and can be easily lifted out as it revolves.

FUN OF THE COLLEGE BOYS

Profitable Metamorphosis.

A soubrette who had made a fiasco,
In despair drank a pint of tobasco.
Soon the hair on her head
Turned from yellow to red,
And she then got a job from Belasco.
—Columbia Jester.

Too Late.

"My goodness gracious, little boy, do you smoke cigars?"

"No need of yer hintin', lady, de butt is promised."—Harvard Lampoon.

Or Into the Soup.

F. Uny—Funny thing about missionaries.

E. A. Sy—How's that?

F. Uny—Why, they usually go to the bad.—Penn. Punch Bowl.

Not Acquainted With Her.

"He who runs may read," began the wise one.

"But who in the world is May Reed?" asked his foolish friend.—Princeton Tiger.

Just Imagine.

Rabbit Hunter—Do you like birds?
Bird Hunter—Sure! I love 'em!
Rabbit Hunter—Then eat my rabbit for a lark.—Harvard Lampoon.

Sometimes It Brings It.

College Idiot—That takes the cake!
Kind Friend—What does?
College Idiot—Oh, the baker's wagon, I suppose.—Columbia Jester.

In a French Restaurant.

Victim—Phew! what kind of cheese is that?

Waiter—De Brie, Monsieur.

Victim—Well, remove the debrie.—Harvard Lampoon.

They Were Envious.

There once was a maiden in Fla.,
Who had no fall hat, so she ba.
Little old bonnet;
Men doted uponnet,
But girls said she couldn't look ha.

For Shame, Papa and Mamma.

Teacher (pointing to T)—What letter is that, Jimmy?

Jimmy (densely)—Dunno.

Teacher—Well, what do papa and mamma drink at supper?

Jimmy—Beer.—Princeton Tiger.

Reason Enough.

"Nellie, why do you snivel,
And why this tragic pose?"
"Beganze do dab hay fever
Has seddled in me dose."
—Cornell Widow.

HOPELESS CASES.

When the doctor leaves and says the case is hopeless, what remains to be done? Nothing, if the doctor's word is final. Much, if you will listen to the statements of men and women who were once "hopeless cases" given up by doctors, and who were perfectly and permanently cured by the use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery.

Nothing is more sure than that thousands of men and women with diseased lungs, obstinate coughs, hemorrhage, emaciation and night-sweats, have been restored to perfect health by the use of the "Discovery." Will it cure you?

It has cured in ninety-eight cases out of every hundred where it was given a fair and faithful trial. By that record you have only two chances in a hundred of failure and ninety-eight chances of being restored to perfect health. It is worth trying.

Abram Freer, Esq., of Rockbridge, Greene Co., Ill., writes: "My wife had a severe attack of pleurisy and lung trouble; the doctors gave her up to die. She commenced taking Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery and she began to improve from the first dose. By the time she had taken eight or ten bottles she was cured, and it was the cause of a large amount being sold here. I think the 'Golden Medical Discovery' is the best medicine in the world for lung trouble."

FREE. Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser containing over a thousand large pages is sent *free* on receipt of stamps to pay expense of mailing *only*. Send 21 one-cent stamps for the book in paper covers, or 31 stamps for the cloth-bound volume. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

AN ALMANAC THAT FORETELLS WOE

War, pestilence, and sudden death are to be meted out next year, according to "Old Moore," who has already the whole story among the stars, says the London Daily Mail. In fact, his almanac containing the whole story is already printed.

"Old Moore" is attracted by the likelihood of a general election in England, which he half promises in several months, for general elections are not to be regulated even by the stars.

Uranus and Saturn threaten danger to the king. Uranus will be active about January 7, but apparently little will come of it, for Saturn will take up the post of "threatener" in February and action again in June. In that month, too, an "air of mystery and trouble will be afloat," just as in December there will be cold weather.

Every month will be marked by a world's wonder, such as these:

JANUARY—Great fire in London, fatal results, great destruction.
FEBRUARY—Turbulent scenes in the house of commons.
MARCH—Flying machines will be the surprise of the day.
APRIL—War in China.
MAY—War in Spain.
JUNE—Aeronaut to be killed.
JULY—The British government will be ridiculed throughout the land.
AUGUST—Many will drop dead in the streets.
SEPTEMBER—More sudden deaths; collisions and earthquakes.
OCTOBER—Probably a general election.
NOVEMBER—Disasters day by day.
DECEMBER—Storms and cold weather.

It may also be mentioned that "road locomotion will make vast strides in May."

BEAUTIES AND SKELETONS

Berlin has its noted court beauties. The sisters of the kaiser are fair types of the Teuton beauty. The Archprincessin of Saxon Meiningen and Princessin Friedrich Karl von Hessen, both sisters of the kaiser, are among the favorites at court. One of the most brilliant women of the Prussian court is Princess Friedrich Leopold of Prussia, who is a sister of the kaiserin, and comes from the old feudal Schleswig-Holstein house. Among the other celebrities are Princess Karl Anton von Hohenzollern, born in Belgium, who lives in Potsdam and is attached to the kaiserin's suite. Among the younger set is the pretty, bright Princessin Pauline of Wurtemberg, a daughter of the King of Wurtemberg and Archprincess of Wied, who also resides near the royal palace in Potsdam.

The Berlin court also has its skeleton closet, its bitter family feuds and griefs, which are kept sealed from the profane public eye. But the kaiser is no friend of secret court intrigues or scandals and makes short work of such domestic difficulties. Frequently it is asserted that there is a coolness between the kaiser and his brother, Prince Henry, and that the latter has been commissioned for sea duty so that he may be kept distant. This is untrue, as the strongest brotherly affection exists between the two. The kaiser rules over family affairs as over the empire with an iron will. Under Bismarck the various widely spread branches of the Hohenzollern family and reigning Prussian princes were rent with jealousies and family rows regarding prestige and incomes. But the kaiser has swept aside these cobwebs and there is perhaps no European court where the "whole family" is more harmonious and free from the customary ills of nobility than the German court.—Brooklyn Eagle.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.

Take Laxative Bromo-Quinine Tablets. This signature [illegible] on every box, 25c.

COULDN'T STAND JOHN.

Butchers as a rule, can stand a good deal of grumbling from their customers, but there's a limit to everything—even a butcher's patience.

"John," said a certain member of the trade to his youngest apprentice, "I'm getting tired of that Mrs. X. and her eternal grumbling. I wish to goodness she'd take her custom elsewhere. When next she comes in I'll turn her over to you."

"Very well, sir," said John, calmly. "You may depend upon me."

The shop was full of customers when Mrs. X. bounced in and began as usual:

"I want two pounds of beef, Mr. C.; beef, you understand, not bone! The last I had from you was all bone; and if"—

"Beef, is it, ma'am?" said John, stepping forward. "Yes, ma-am. I understand. You want the boneless variety from the Bungeroodo Islands. We've ordered you two pounds by pigeon post, and we understand it was despatched by special balloon this morning. No doubt you will find it waiting for you when you get back. A special stipulation in the contract was that the boneless beef should be absolutely clear of fat and suet, should weigh twenty-seven ounces to the pound, and"—

But Mrs. X. had vanished.—Tit-Bits.

FOOLING THE CROWD.

A quiet young fellow emerged from a hotel in Liverpool recently and began poking in the earth with his cane. Of course, a bystander saw him and asked what he was about.

"I am looking for a sovereign," was the answer.

The questioner was interested, and, procuring a long stick, fell to digging also. A second man did likewise, and others followed suit till at least 40 individuals joined in the search. Umbrellas, canes, and bootlaces were brought into requisition and stirred up the dust to such an extent that the air resounded with a chorus of sneezes while the policeman nearly went distracted in his endeavors to disperse the crowd. Finally some one remembered to ask the quiet young fellow how he happened to lose the coin.

"Oh, I didn't lose any," he replied, calmly. "I just thought I might find one if I kept on looking, that's all."

Then each separate member of that party of xolunteer searchers went silently away and the quiet young fellow sat down and smiled till he was red in the face.—Tit-Bits.

IN DARKEST NDIANA.

Why a Railroad Company Named a Village H'town.

"Indiana is full of towns with queer names," said Herbert J. Sullivan, a business man of Indianapolis, to the Washington Star, "but the queerest of them all has so far been left to languish in undeserved obscurity. People who are acquainted with that portion of darkest Indiana which lies in the neighborhood of Crawfordsville must have seen on the signboard of a little station as they rushed by on a limited train this astonishing name, 'H'town.'

"Behind that apostrophe lies the story of the joke a rich old Indiana farmer played on a great railroad company. The farmer owned several thousand acres of land in one body. When the railroad was built it was found necessary to cut through his land. The right of way agents went to him and asked him to set a price on a slip a few hundred feet wide running through his property. They offered him a large price for the land, for they had found other property owners in the vicinity reasonable, and did not care to start any condemnation proceedings unless it was absolutely necessary. But the old farmer would not listen to them. His income was twice as large as he cared to spend, and he rather enjoyed the position of blocking all of the efforts of a great corporation.

"The claim agents made up their minds that they would have to start a suit, and were about ready to bring it when they were very much surprised to get a letter from the old farmer. 'If you will let me name the town you are going to build on my land,' he said, 'I'll give you all the land you need.'

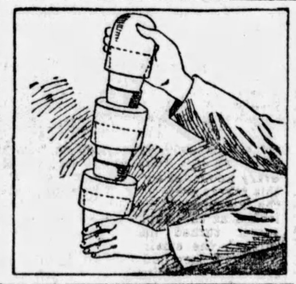
"They accepted his terms with great glee. Of course, they expected his vanity would lead him to name the town after himself, and they were quite prepared for that emergency. But he fooled them. A written agreement was drawn up and signed and the deeds passed. Then they asked him for the name of the town he had selected.

"'We'll just call it Helltown,' he said.

"They argued with him until they saw it was useless. They could not back out, for the papers had already been signed. Then they decided they would get even in another way. They let out the second and fourth letters of the name and put in an innocent-looking apostrophe. And so the name of the village is H'town to this day."

A DRINK-SHAKER FROM OSHKOSH

Probably a portion of our readers will be more interested in the kind of drinks served in Oshkosh than in the manner in which they are mixed, but for the benefit of the rest of our readers, who will be of course, more interested in the mixer than in the mix, we show the latest invention used in that town for simultaneously producing a number of mixed drinks. This device is not for the benefit of those who prefer to mix their drinks internally, as Nature still seems to provide the best means of performing this feat; but when a party of three or four order drinks together it enables the bartender to produce the concoctions simultaneously, instead of serving each customer separately. The only limit to the number of glasses which can be handled with this mixing machine is the ability



of the operator to stack them up and his strength to handle them. As will be seen, the top glass is always covered with a plain cap, while the concoction between the upper glass and the next below is a combination of cap for the under tumbler aand socket for the bottom of the upper one. All the caps are, of course, water (or spirit) proof, and when the glasses are filled with the drinks and stacked up with the shakers the bartender handles them exactly as he would a single glass.

Grove's Black Root Liver Pills.

Made from an active principle obtained from Black Root. They act on the liver equal to calomel and leave no bad after effects. No griping, no sick stomach. Will cure chronic constipation. Price 25 cents.

AT THE RESTAURANT.

One day during the dinner hour at a crowded city retstaurant, a talkative lady hailed an overworked waiter and ordered dinner for two. This is the way she did it:

"Waiter! Waiter! Oh, you're here, are you? I didn't notice. Now, I've brought my friend to show her my favorite luncheon place, and I want you to take particular pains to have everything nice. We want a fillet steak for two—the best you have. Be sure it's good, won't you? I have told her that there isn't another place in the city where you could get a steak cooked so deliciously as you can here, and I shall be so disappointed if it doesn't come up to our expectations. I want it cooked just right—not too well done—not raw in the middle, I don't mean, but not dried up either. Well, just about what you would call perfect.

"And, let me see. Oh, of course, we want some potatoes. Fried—boiled—mashed. We always have mashed at home. My husband won't eat them any other way, and I got so tired of it. You may bring us boiled—no, they're so common—we'll take fried. And—oh, yes, something to drink. You'll have tea, Well, I'll take a cup of coffee. They say hot milk is more nourishing, but never mind. I'll take the coffee. Now, you will try and have everything just as good as you can, won't you, because— Why he didn't wait for me to finish! What impertience.

The man said: "Cook! Fillet steak—fried potatoes—coffee."—The New Yorker.

A Canliflower.

Frances—Fred is getting poetical; he addressed me today in floral language.

Jane—Called you a rose, I suppose, or perhaps a lily?

Frances—No; he called me a cabbage-head. He likes cabbages better than roses or lillies.—Boston Evening Transcript.

No Person Should Die

of any kidney disease or be distressed by stomach troubles or tortured and poisoned by constipation. Vernal Saw Palmetto Berry Wine will be sent free and prepaid to any reader of this publication who needs it and writes for it. One dose a day of this remedy does the work and cures perfectly to stay cured. If you care to be cured of indigestion, dyspepsia, flatulence, catarrh of the stomach and bowels, constipation, or torpid and congested liver; if you wish to be sure that your kidneys are free from disease and are doing their necessary work thoroughly; if you expect to be freed from catarrh, rheumatism and backache; if you desire full supply of pure, rich blood, a healthy tissue and a perfect skin, write at once for a free bottle of this remedy, and prove for yourself, without expense to you, that these ailments are cured quickly, thoroughly and permanently with only one dose a day of Vernal Saw Palmetto Berry Wine.

The original and genuine Palmetto Berry Wine is made only by the Vernal Remedy Co., 103 Seneca st., Buffalo, N. Y.

Sore Eyes Cured Free.

Any Case of Cataract, Granulated Lids, Sore, Inflamed, Bloodshot, Tired or Weak Eyes or Wild Hairs Can be Cured Painlessly by a New Remedy.

Trial Treatment by Mail Prepaid Absolutely Free.

Prof. Herman T. Schlegel, the noted eye specialist, 68 Mackinaw Building, Chicago, is sending to any sufferer from sore, weak eyes, cataract or granulated eyelids, ulcers, wild hairs or styes, absolutely free, a trial treatment of a most remarkable remedy.

Bad Case of Granulated Lids Cured by Prof. H. T. Schlegel's Magic Eye Lotion.

It is a harmless, painless, soothing and healing preparation that gives instant and absolute relief to all aches, pains and burning eyes from inflammation, strain or granulated lids.

It cures the worst cases of granulated lids in a few days. In cases of ulcers of the eye when doctors had given up and said the sight must be lost this marvelous remedy has cured positively and permanently in a few weeks and restored the eyes to perfect sight. It is an absolute and perfect cure for inflamed or weak eyes and has restored the sight to people nearly blind for years.

OLD FASHIONED JUDGE.

The editor of a New Orleans paper has been committed to jail, charged with contempt of court. The editor's offense consisted of having published a report of a murder trial at which the judge presided. It appears that the judge expected some of his rulings in the case to be overruled by a higher court; hence he forbade the papers from publishing an account of the trial because some one might read it and form an opinion, which, of course, would disqualify the reader from acting on a jury at a second trial of the case.

While the letter of the law upholds the judge in his position, there can be no doubt that he has arbitrarily used his power of committing for contempt. Trials in courts are public, and a man in the court room during a trial is just as likely to form an opinion of the case as if he read a report of it in the newspapers. The judge's logic, to be consistent, must exclude every one from a trial not directly connected with the case, and that state of affairs would not be tolerated for an instant. We are not living in the days of "Bloody Jeffries" or infamous judges who did as they pleased on the bench, in defiance of the right of free speech and a free press. In this connection, the following from the conservative Brooklyn Eagle is of special interest:

"Worst of all features of the New Orleans case is the arbitrary exhibit of power by the judge. The editor is imprisoned, not after trial by his fellows, but on the order of a man who is judge and jury both. If, a view of the latter, there is to be no longer any publicity in our trials, any freedom of press or speech concerning the actions of court, then the sooner we revise court practice and limit judicial authority the better for all concerned. As courts are at present conducted, they are as apt to be agents of injustice against society as otherwise. They are certainly that in New Orleans. It is for the welfare of New Orleans that it should have more editors than judges. Freedom of the press is a constitutional privilege."—Oswego Palladium (Dem.).

GIANT VISITING KANKAKEE

Edward Beaupre, who is visiting relatives in Kankakee, and who is about to visit friends in Chicago, is said to be the largest man in the world. He is 8 feet 3½ inches tall, weighs 370 pounds, wears a No. 10 hat, a No. 22 shoe, and a No. 21 collar. His chest measure is 56 inches. He is twenty-one years old, and was born near Winnipeg, of French-Canadian parents, whose statures were not above the average.

"Where did I get my height?" asked Beaupre, repeating the question of a friend today. "Je ne sais pas," and he shrugged his massive shoulders.

"Am I strong in proportion to my size?" he went on; "well, you may decide." With the remark he walked out of a local restaurant into the street, threw one arm around the body of a farmers' horse, and lifted the animal off its feet.

When Beaupre was ten years old he was 6 feet 4 inches tall. "That fact enabled me to escape one thing few boys do escape," remarked the giant when comment was made on his early growth. "My father's clothes were never cut down to fit me. He was only 5 feet 8 inches."

For a time Beaupre was a cowboy in Montana. His size was too great for the horses he had to ride, so he gave up the occupation. During his cowboy experience a pony kicked him, and broke his jawbone, leaving a bad scar. But for this he would be as handsome as he is strong. In hotels he has to sleep on the floor because all beds are too short for him; in sleeping cars he utilizes two upper berths. "I get along all right," said he, "except for one thing—I am so big the girls are all scared at seeing me, and I have not yet found a sweetheart."—Chicago Chronicle.

$100 Reward, $100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by druggists, 75c.
Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Smart Mathematics.

School teacher, examining the class, lights on the youngest and is so struck with his intelligent aspect that he questions him forthwith:

"Now, my little man, what do five and two make?"

The little one remainded silent.

"Well, suppose, now, I were to give you five rabbits today and two more tomorrow, how many rabbits would you have then?"

"Eight," promptly answered the juvenile.

"Eight! Why, how do you make that out?"

"'Cause I've got one to home already!"—Cincinnati Enquirer.

She'd Do the Talking.

Mrs. Lucy Hopple was granted a divorce in the district court at Atchison the other day. When the case first came on for trial Mrs. Hopple asked Judge Bland if she might say a few words to him in private. "I can't talk to you about your case, madam," replied the judge. "I don't want you to talk; I want to talk," said Mrs. Hopple.—Kansas City Journal.

A Triumph of Perseverance.

To example how dogged determination may overcome all obstacles, the Ottawa Herald notes the case of a one-armed boy in Franklin county. Though sadly handicapped in the race for life, he has striven and struggled until now he can roll a cigarette as expeditiously as any two-handed youth in town.—Kansas City Journal.

Really a Star.

"Your son is doing well at college, I am told."

"Doing well? I should think so. He's right end on the football team and holds the record for the half-mile run."—Chicago Post.

WAS A WOMAN OF WIT

How Elizabeth Cady Stanton Made Friends With Horace Greeley.

The late Elizabeth Cady Stanton won many of her battles through her wit, says the Philadelphia Press. All the odds were against her when she began to fight for suffrage, but she won scores and hundreds of friends and allies by saying cleverly the pertinent thing at just the right psychological moment. Horace Greeley, for instance, gave her the services of the Tribune, purely because she worsted him once in a public argument; he said so himself.

Mr. Greeley thought women should have all the advantages of education open to them and opportunities for occupation and equal pay for equal work. He even held, with Dr. Bushnell, that women should have the right of offering their hands to those whom they preferred, but he could not think that those same hands might properly drop a ballot in the box.

All of this was one day under dispute between the great editor and Mrs. Stanton in the ante room of a lecture hall in Syracuse, where the two were to appear upon the stage. Perhaps forty or fifty others were present.

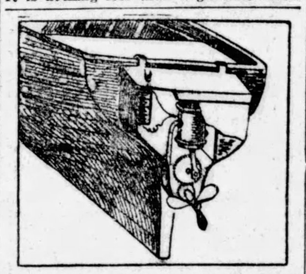
"Madame," said Mr. Greeley, "the ballot and the bullet go together. If you want to vote, are you ready to fight?"

Without an instant's hesitation Mrs. Stanton replied: "Certainly, sir, I'm ready to fight just as you have fought—by sending a substitute."

While the rest laughed at his defeat, Mr. Greeley only grunted, but from that moment the Tribune gave the suffrage cause the fairest reports of any paper in the country.

PROPELLER FOR SMALL BOATS

It is but natural that the owner of a rowboat should at times desire a motor launch, especially when on a long distance pull on a warm day, and yet the expense of a new boat, with engine and machinery, places it beyond the reach of the majority of rowboat owners. In our illustration we show an apparatus which may answer the purpose fully as well as a new boat, and at far less cost. It is nothing less than a gasoline motor



so arranged that it can be secured to the rear end of a small boat, with the fuel and electric batteries stored in a casing which answers as a seat for the person controlling the motor and steering the boat. The motor casing is cut away in the picture to show the method of mounting the propeller shaft and connecting the motor. Of course, this boat is not intended to compete with the high-speed and higher-priced craft which the modern boat builder is now able to produce, but it will afford no small amount of pleasure to its owner on a leisurely cruise or fishing trip about the rivers and lakes of the country. To place the mechanism in position on a boat it is only necessary to store away the batteries and gasoline reservoir beneath the seat and suspend the motor casing over the stern by the hooks and clamps provided for the purpose.

RED TAPE.

Here is a good example of the manner in which public money is fooled away by public officials. The extract is from the Daily Mail:

"At the Spalding Urban Council audit yesterday the Local Government Board auditor and twelve clerks were detained during discussing how a halfpenny should be dealt with. The banks refuse to take halfpennies, and the auditor contended they should accordingly be brought forward. The previous auditor had, however, held otherwise, and marked the halfpenny balance out. No decision was arrived at and the audit had to be adjourned a week. Double railway fares and other expenses were necessitated."

The last sentence means first class railway fare for the auditor, second class fare for his clerks, hotel expenses, and probably a cab or two. It is to be hoped that the constitution makes some provision for auditing the auditors and surcharging them when they play the fool in this manner.—London Truth.

BRILLIANTS.

Be brave until the end.
—Elisabeth Finley.

There is nothing so kingly as kindness,
And nothing so royal as truth.
—Alice Cary.

He who neglects the present moment
Throws away all that he has.
—Schiller.

All that is, at all,
Lasts forever, past recall;
Earth changes, but they soul and God stand sure;
What entered into thee,
That was, is, and shall be.
Time's wheel runs back or stoups; potter and clay endure.
—Browning.

Today unsullied comes to thee—newborn,
Tomorrow is not thine;
The sun may cease to shine
For thee ere earth shall greet its morn.

Be earnest, then, in thought and deed,
Nor fear approaching night;
Calm comes with evening light,
And hope and peace. Thy duty heed today.
—Ruskin.

A ROSE TO THE LIVING.

A rose to the living is more
Than sumptuous wreaths to the dead;
In filling love's infinite store,
A rose to the living is more
If graciously given before
The hungering spirit is fed—
A rose to the living is more
Than sumptuous wreaths to the dead.
—Nixon Waterman.

A SOLDIER'S FOE.

Knocked Down by Unsuspected Enemy.

Coffee so affects the brain and nerves that proper nutrition is interfered with and the final ending is frequently nervous prostration.

"During the Spanish-American war, I went with my troop to Chickamauga," says Lieut. J. G. Talbott, of Springfield, Ill. "If there is any one place on earth where one drinks more coffee than another it is in the army. It is a soldier's 'back bone,' and I can assure you that I drank my share. After several months of hard drilling my health gave out, the chief cause being coffee, bad food, overexertion and heat.

On the advice of the surgeon, I tendered my resignation and with my heart full of regret and my nervous system shattered, I returned home. Almost the first thing the doctor whom I consulted advised me was to quit coffee. That was the first intimation I had that coffee had anything to do with my condition. The next thing was 'what shall I drink?'

My wife's mother used Postum Food Coffee and knew how to make it right, so I tried it and grew very fond of it. My nervous trouble soon left, my old time health came back, and that Fall I gained so in flesh that the boys on returning after 'muster out,' hardly knew me. Quitting coffee and using Postum did wonders for me."

THE FARMSTEAD.

INQUIRIES AND ANSWERS.

Vinegar From Cider.

Editor Farmstead:—If M. B., Berrien county, Michigan, will put a quart of good yeast into a barrel of cider he will have good, light-colored vinegar in two weeks. The yeast is made by boiling four potatoes; then skin and mash fine; add one tablespoonful of salt and three tablespoonfuls of granulated sugar. Have a cake of yeast soaked, so it is light; then stir it in the potatoes, let it stand over night, then put it into the barrel of cider. This is the same kind of yeast of which bread is made. This is sure if the yeast is good.—Reader.

To Keep Cider Sweet.

Editor Farmstead:—I note an inquiry how to keep cider sweet. I will give a recipe. When the cider gets worked enough drawn off the clear cider, wash the barrel inside, then take a cloth as wide as will go into the bunghole, dip it in melted sulphur, light it and put it in the barrel. Put in the bung and let the sulphur burn. Then put the cider in as quickly as possible and the cider will not work any more.—D. L. B., Pa.

Editor Farmstead:—This is the way we have kept our cider sweet for drinking: Make the cider as late as you can. Melt some sulphur, dip a cloth, about two inches wide and as long as you wish, in it; then set it on fire and hang it in the barrel a few minutes. That will burn the air all out. Have your cider well strained and as soon as you take the rag out pour the cider in, so as to keep the air out. When the barrel is full have half a pint of ground horseradish in a small poke, with a string fastened to it and drop it in. Keep some of the string outside and put the cork in tight. Draw with a faucet. We have a barrel just as good as when we put it up. Keep it in as cold a place as you have, but not in a cellar. We put ours in a shed.—Reader.

Cows in Calving.

Editor Farmstead:—A cow should be given some tansy, either green or dry, with her feed a few days before calving, and some fresh hogs' lard on a piece of bread, or mixed in bran, after the calf is dropped. The amount given must be gauged by the size of the cow. She will be all right then.—J. A. C., W. Va.

Editor Farmstead:—Tell W. G., of Michigan, to give his cow one tablespoonful of mullen seed in a warm bran mash. If the cow gets no better in three hours, repeat the dose. This I have used and never saw it fail.—B. S. K., Ohio.

Editor Farmstead:—I will reply to a recent query to help a cow that does not clean when calving. Get one pound of epsom salts, give one-half of it and if needed give the other half in twelve hours. I never knew it to fail, and it is rare that the second dose is needed.—B., Sibley, Iowa.

Measuring Hay in Stack.

Editor Farmstead:—In reply to C. A. B., Fruita, Colo., in The Blade, asking how to measure hay in the stack: To find the number of tons in a circular stack, multiply the square of the circumference in yards by 4 times the altitude in yards and divide by 100; the quotient will be the number of cubic yards in the stack; then divide by 15, for the number of tons. Example: How many tons of hay in a circular stack whose circumference at the base is 25 yards and height 9 yards? 25 times 25 equals 625, the square of the circumference; then 625 times 36 (4 times the height) equals 225,000; divided by 100 equals 225, number of cubic yards; then 225 divided by 15 equals 15, the number of tons.

For long, square stacks, multiply the length in yards by the width in yards, and that by half the altitude, then divide by 15.—H. W. M., Iowa.

Editor Farmstead:—To find the number of tons of hay in a square or long stack, multiply the length in yards by the breath in yards and that by half the height in yards and divide by 15.—Reader, Reid, W. Va.

An Ailing Dog.

Editor Farmstead:—Will some reader kindly tell me through The Farmstead, what ails my dog? He was all right until about two weeks ago, when he began to lose the use of his legs and back. In two or three days he could not get up alone. Now he cannot get up nor walk, nor help himself in any way. He is eight years old, is fat, and has a fair good appetite. His eyes look well and he doesn't seem to suffer any pain. He has just a slight cough.—S. S., Pa.

A Horse's Foot.

Editor Farmstead:—I have a fine horse that has a sore hind foot, right where the hoof and flesh join. The sore is half around the foot, is about a half inch wide, and matterates. Will someone tell me through The Blade what it is, and please give me a remedy for the same?—Subscriber, Coleman, Wis.

CRANBERRY MEN TO MEET.

Plans Made for Sixteenth Annual Meeting, January 13.

The annual meeting of the Wisconsin Cranberry Growers' Association will be held on Tuesday, January 13, at 9 oclock a. m., in the city council rooms of Grand Rapids, Mich. Following is the program which will be given:

President's address—Chas. Briere.
Secretary's report—W. H. Fitch.
Science and Art of Cranberry Growing—John A. Gaynor.
Past, present and future of the Cranberry—D. R. Burr.
Fruit growing organization of California—E. C. Bennett.
Best methods of handling water—C. S. Whittlesey.
The Question Box. Answers to the following questions are requested: Are smaller packages than barrels desirable? How many gardens are deemed advisable? Definition of terms in cranberry growing? Establishment of a cranberry journal? How late in the fall should flooding be done? How early in the spring should water be taken off? What percent of "defective" berries ought to take same out of the class "sound" berries? Individual yield of growers as compared with last year? Comparative crops in the vicinity of shipping station.

The queston of makng cranberry exhibits at the St. Louis and Louisiana fairs in 1903 and 1904 will also be taken up.

CATTLE EPIDEMIC.

Foot and Mouth Disease Prevails in New England.

The suggeston that the foot and mouth disease recently discovered in Eastern Massachusetts has prevailed there for some time, is borne out by the head of the Department of Agriculture. Secretary Wilson is reported as follows by the Washington correspondent of the Boston Globe: "Secretary Wilson believes that the disease has been epidemic in Massachusetts and in other New England states for some time past, but that its existence has been concealed from the national authorities for the fear that a quarantine would be established, which would be injurious to trade, the local authorities hoping meanwhile that the disease could be stamped out without general attention being called to its existence."

It was also suggested in these columns that the disease was carried into Massachusetts from Canada some time ago when it was prevalent across the border. The Canadian authorities took vigorous action a year or more ago and probably succeeded in stamping out the infection. Many cattle were killed and a rigid quarantine was enforced. So it could easily happen that the disease planted by accident in Massachusetts could exist there for some time after it practically disappeared from Canada.

As the infection is now to be found along the line of travel, it is well for the farmers and stockmen in this state to understand the situation and the nature of the disease. Dr. Austin Peters, of the Massachusetts Board of Cattle Commissioners, says of the infection:

"The first symptoms of the foot and mouth disease in cattle is that they begin slobbering, or drooling at the mouth and smacking their lips. When this is noticed the inspectors take their temperature. With the disease their temperature becomes quite high, and there is an eruption in the mouth.

"Little vesicles form inside the mouth and sometimes on the tongue. Then the tops of these little blisters are raised up, and a serous fluid, amber colored, runs forth. The sores which result sometimes reach as much as two or three inches in diameter inside the mouth.

"About the same time between the two divisions of the foot blisters occur, and they afterward break, leaving sores in the foot. It frequently, but not always, follows that the udders of the cows also get sore, causing blisters on the teats or the base of the udder.

"In this way the disease can sometimes be conveyed by milkers of cows, and they even contract it themselves. So, too, would sheep and swine, that may be brought in close contact with the affected cows, contract the disease.

"The disease can be conveyed in the milk to persons. It is usually conveyed to children, as they drink more milk than grown persons, and are more susceptible to the disease.

"They are affected by getting blisters in the mouth and on the lips, and by intestinal trouble. Some of the cases thus affected are fatal. In grown people, however, the danger is not so great."

So far as can be ascertained cattle traders introduced the disease to dairy farms near Boston by the sale of infected cattle. It is estimated that the disease can be stamped out in three months.

NITRATE DEPOSIT

Has Been Discovered in Death Valley, in California.

It is announced that a vast deposit of nitrates has been discovered in the Death Valley of California. This means much to the farmers of the United States, because the nitrates of soda and potash are a valuable fertilizer for lands that are deficient in nitrogen. Nitrogen is an important constituent of the atmosphere, since it forms nearly 77 per cent of its bulk, yet it is one of the most elusive of elements. A soil that is deficient in nitrogenous material will produce very poor crops and men have learned to plant certain things which have the power to separate nitrogen from the atmosphere and store it up in their cells. Clover, peas, cowpeas and other legumes have this property. Lands that are deficient in nitrogen are made fertile by plowing under green crops of this nature, but feeding the soil with the nitrate products of the rainless, desert regions, which collect in great beds, because there is no rainfall to leach them away, is a more direct method. It also gives quicker results, since the salts are all ready to be absorbed into plant structures, as soon as they are dissolved by the rain.

Stable manure which is commonly used for fertilizing purposes depends principally upon the nitrate salts and nitrogen compounds in the form of ammonia for its value. Ammonia is easily obtainable from the nitrate, as one may discover by mixing saltpetre, which is nitrate of potash. If the farmers of Michigan could have a crude but fairly rich nitrate of soda or potash laid down in the state for $8 or $10 a ton, it would be an easy matter to keep the land rich in plant food. As it is, these fertilizers seem to be but little appreciated in our country. The phosphate rock of Florida and several other southern states goes ever to Europe to be converted into soluble phosphates and used in the arts and upon the soil. It is sold at the mines for something like $8 a ton and when any of it comes back it sells for perhaps $40. Millions of tons of nitrates are taken from the Chilean deposits every year to keep life and fertility in the soils of Europe. That is one of the reasons why they are still able to grow splendid crops of wheat and other grains, to say nothing of sugar beets, upon soils that were farmed centuries before the Christian era, while our farmers of the eastern states are bewailing the fact that their farms which were covered by the primeval forest of 100 years ago are exhausted and unprof

HAVE YOU GOT RHEUMATISM?

YOU CAN BE CURED; FREE.

A Scientific Discovery Which Will Revolutionize the Treatment of Rheumatism.

Deformity of the hands in general Chronic Articular Rheumatism. Type No. 1.

Deformity of the hands in general Chronic Articular Rheumatism. Type No. 2.

It is now possible to be cured of any form of rheumatism without having your stomach turned upside down or being half choked to death and made to vomit, and every sufferer from rheumatism should welcome this new and marvelous discovery with open arms and give it an honest trial. This new remedy was discovered by John A. Smith, Milwaukee, Wis., who is generous enough to send it free to every sufferer who writes at once. It is a home treatment and will not keep you from your work.

As you know, if you've tried them, every so-called rheumatic remedy on the market today, except this genuine cure, will cause you violent stomach pains and vomiting, and some of them are so dangerous they will cause heart trouble. And the worst of it is they never cure. When a person has rheumatism the constitution is run down that he should be very careful what he puts into his stomach.

It therefore gives me pleasure to present a remedy that will cure every form and variety of rheumatism without one single unpleasant feeling. That remedy is

"GLORIA TONIC."

Before I decided to tell the world about the discovery of "Gloria Tonic" I had it tried on hospital patients, also on old and crippled persons, with perfect success. But some people never will believe anything until they know it from experience, so the best and quickest way is for you to write me that you want to be cured, and I will send you a box of "Gloria Tonic" free of cost. No matter what your form of rheumatism is—acute, chronic, muscular, inflammatory, deformant, sciatic, neuralgia, gout, lumbago, etc., "Gloria Tonic" will surely cure you. Do not mind if other remedies have failed you, nor mind if doctors say you are incurable. Mind no one, but write me today sure. "Gloria Tonic" will stop those aches and pains, those inflammations and deformities, and cure you so that life will again be worth living. This offer is not for curiosity seekers, but is made to rheumatics only. To them I will send a trial box of "Gloria Tonic" free.

Never before has a remedy been so highly indorsed as "Gloria Tonic." It has been indorsed by such world-noted men as Dr. Quintero, of the University of Venezuela; Hon. E. H. Plumacher, United States Consul, Maracaibo; Prof. Macadam, of Surgeons' Hall, Edburgh, the famous magazine, "Health," London, and a column of others.

If you are a sufferer send your name today and by return mail you will receive "Gloria Tonic," and also the most elaborate book ever written on the subject of rheumatism, absolutely free. This book contains many drawings from actual life and will tell you all about your case. You get "Gloria Tonic" and this wonderful book at the same time, both free, so let me hear from you at once and soon you will be cured. Address JOHN A. SMITH, 1028 Germania building, Milwaukee, Wis., U. S. A.

Send no money nor stamps.

The Sunday School.

A BOY AND SOME GROWN FOLKS

International Sunday School Lesson for December 14—"The Boy Samuel," Sam. III:6-14.

Every family closet is credited with containing a skeleton. As a rule, the men and women we meet in business and social life have secrets, deep and personal, which the world never guesses, yet which are constantly uppermost in their own thoughts. In the long ago of Bible times there was a respected Levite named Elkanah, apparently a man of influence and contentment, who had a wife named Hannah. He loved her dearly. But they had no son. This old book, which is a gallery of human pictures, here draws aside the curtain before one of the deepest of domestic sorrows. There was everything else in that Jewish home, but no child by the beloved wife. Hannah was one of the unconsoled company of women with the mother heart, but no child to lavish her love upon.

The Sorrows Out of Sight.

Ah, these hidden griefs—how they gnaw the heart! And they are the more bitter because they cannot be shared. How many and intense they are only the angels and the compassionate Lord above them can know. In this case, childlessness was the shadow resting upon an otherwise happy home. Elkanah, man fashion, tried clumsily to comfort his wife, but a woman's sorrows no man can understand or help. Day after day Hannah yearned for a son; her environment, her religion and her native instincts all combined to intensify this desire. No woman's life is complete until she has folded her own son to her breast.

Where else would Hannah pour out her grief except in the ear of God? All hearts turn to the divine power in their deepest experiences; especially is this so of a woman, whose finer nature gives her a soul more spiritually sensitive. The heart of a woman is a world which only God can understand. While Hannah prayed for a son, her lips unconsciously moving in her absorption, the venerable priest, Eli, saw her and—so are best deeds and motives often misunderstood—rebuked her for drunkenness. When he learned his error, he added his prayer to hers and the woman went home rejoicing.

A Child Set Apart.

Thus was Samuel born, a child of prayer. As such, his mother dedicated him to the service of Jehovah. From God he had come, to God he should live. His very name means "asked of God." He was one of the long line of noble men whose lives have been in a peculiar sense a mission because the prayers of holy mothers have set them apart. Many mothers have dedicated their sons to the service of their country, to the service of their fellow-men, or to the service of God, and have had the joy of seeing their desires fulfilled. A mother does well by her child when she supposes great things of him, and offers him up from the beginning on the altar of some sacred service. No son ever escapes wholly from his mother's prayers.

Behind every great man is a good woman. The noble deeds of history have for the most part had their spring in the noble hearts of mothers. Hannah disappears from the story when Samuel enters upon his tabernacle service at Shiloh; but she did not fail of success because her life, her dreams, her desires, her purposes were to be wrought out through her son. In these days of woman's rights' discussions, the fundamental truth is not to be overlooked, that when a woman gives her life to the upbearing of a family, she is fulfilling God's noblest ideal for her.

A Contrast in Families.

"Blood will tell," but there are stronger prices than blood in the making of a man. We have seen the scions of America's best families become in a single generation, idle, empty-pated fops, while up from the soil rise hundreds of knightly boys, of whom Abraham Lincoln remains forever the noblest type. That same contrast existed in Israel. The high priest's sons had grown up, in the temple service to a life of profligacy and shame unspeakable. They were a disgrace to their father, to their tribe, to the tabernacle and to the nation. At the same time Samuel, the little lad of less honorable station, was growing in the graces of spirit and reverence and truthfulness. The contrast of these young men, Eli's sons, became so vile that Jehovah visited judgment upon them and upon their father. They had corrupted the morals of the nation; the worst work possible a man or devil is that of being a tempter. To go astray is sin enough, to lead others astray is satanic.

This story and countless like it, should be borne in mind by the multitude of Americans who are learning the old-world habit of climbing family trees. Some people are making too much of being "descendants," and, as Mr. Dooley says, the further they have descended the more they make of it. There is a strong New Testament word concerning "fruit unto salvation"; no one can be saved by his grandfather. When we stand before God it will be on our own feet. Of course, we should pay honor to our fathers, but the best way of doing so is by living an honorable life. There is no warrant for the spirit which animates western America, requiring every man to pass on his own merits.

Boys Will Be Boys.

Samuel's life shows the whiter because of the dark background of Eli's sons against which it is shown. He stands forth as a symmetrical, wholesome boy. No doubt he was often a bother to the old priest; perhaps he was at times livelier than suited the place or Eli's taste. He was not a "boy preacher," by any means. There is not a line of Samuel's history that savors of unnaturalness, priggishness or cant. Had he been a little Pharisee, he would not have grown up in form with the people, for then as now, all men despised a milksop. The hand that afterward slew Agog, king of the Amakelites, was never the hand of a weakling.

Thousands of well intentioned teachers will urge their classes to be Samuels," as this story is being taught. This is a mistake. God doesn't want another copy of Samuel. He wants Toms and Dicks and Harrys who are their own selves, their best selves. Samuel in his place did his part well; he was true to his duty. So in their own particular places—most of them hard, as Samuel's was hard, in the presence of the vileness of Hophni and Phineas—the boys of today should do the hour's task and obey the hour's call.

Bed-Rock Virtues.

"If a boy will tell the truth and obey, anything can be done with him," said a teacher. These two virtues are fundamental; and Samuel had them. His obedience was instant and unquestioning. It is a remarkable boy who will jump out of bed at the first summons with a cheerful "Here am I;" how many twentieth century lads would be likely to roll over for another nap, with a mumbled "all right; in a minute?" One is tempted to write almost too strongly upon the need in this present day of the virtue of character which can be counted on, which never offers excuses, but with cheerful alacrity offers itself for any service. The boy or man who says "Here am I" to the world—and to God—is the one who is always greatly used and greatly honored. There was no thing Samuel out, no suffering of his temper; he was as prompt and as respectful the third time he answered what he supposed to be Eli's summons as he was the first. How would the average American boy of today act in like circumstances?

Samuel was truthful, as well as obedient. It was a hard message that Jehovah spoke to him; we are given a hint to how he shrank from delivering it to the aged priest. Yet the way in which the truthful person always is, and as delicately as possible, he performed his unpleasant duty. Earth has no reward great enough for the person who dares to tell the truth always, at no matter what cost to himself.

The Voices A Boy Hears.

Coarse nature sometimes scoff at the fine fancies and dreams of youth. A boy's ideals are the voice of God. The lofty imaginings of adolescence are beckonings from on high. The soul of youth, with its noble aspirations, its knightly purposes, and its delicate sensitiveness is sacred, and designed by the Lord for the uplifting of our humanity. If a boy

Question Bureau.

RULES—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. 2.—Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons or firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers would be free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, nor concerning prices of coins. 6.—No answers by mail.

Thomas Carlyle.

"Who was Thomas Carlyle, and what did he write to make him constantly alluded to in literary periodicals and books?"—G. M. C., Stroud, Okla.

Thomas Carlyle was born in Scotland in 1795 and died in London in 1881. He was a historian, biographer and miscellaneous writer. His principal works are: "Life of Schiller," "German Romance," "Sartor Resartus," "The French Revolution," "Chartism," "Heroes, Hero Worship, and Heroic in History," "Past and Present," "Life and Letters of Oliver Cromwell," "Later-Day Pamphlets," "Life of Sterling," "Friedrich II," "Inaugural Address at Edinburgh," "Reminiscences of My Irish Journey in 1849," "Last Words of Thomas Carlyle."

The Carlyle family originally came from England, but have lived in Scotland since the days of David II. His father was a stone mason, and with his own hands built the house in which Thomas and eight younger children were born. Thomas was a shy, thoughtful boy, and always a hard student. His father was a quiet, hard working man, making every effort to provide for his family. When he saw that his son Thomas really possessed ability (for, like all true Scotch, the man had a passion for education, even if he did not possess one himself) he said to the boy: "I do not grudge thee thy schooling, Tom, now that thy uncle owns thee a better arithmetician than himself." Of his father, Carlyle afterwards wrote: "More remarkable man than my father I have never met in my journey through life; sterling sincerity in thought, word and deed, most quiet, but capable of blazing into whirlwinds when needful, and such a flash of just insight and brief natural eloquence, and emphasis true to every feature of it, I have never known in any other. No man of my day, or hardly any man, can have better parents."

Thomas was taught to read by his mother, who always possessed a great influence over the lad, and between whom there was always a gentle sympathy. Later he attended a small school, and studied Latin with the parson, when he was 14 he walked to Edinburgh, a distance of 80 miles, to enter the university. To give an idea of the life there one has but to read an extract written by some one describing the Scotch students and the university, which says: "The boys always walked from their homes, having no money for coach hire. They entered their own names at the college. They found their own humble lodgings, and were left entirely to their own capacity for self-conduct. The carrier brought them oatmeal, potatoes and salt butter from the home farm, with a few eggs occasionally as a luxury. Such frugality enabled Carlyle to get a college training, and it was expected that he would enter the kirk. His mother, who had not learned to write until her boy left home, never progressed beyond the third book forward to the time when her "bairn would wag his head in the pulpit." He could not enter the ministry, however, nor did he give it up without a hard struggle. His next tried teaching, but lacked the patience necessary for one who must deal with more or less stupidity. Strange to say, the friend who helped him out of this crisis in his life was the German poet, Goethe. The contrast is certainly great between the serene poet of culture and the rugged Scotchman. He commenced to write, but for many years had a very hard time with the bread and butter side of his work. His friends in America recognized his worth more than the English, and it need be no small matter of pride with us that our dollars at that time were of great assistance to the young writer. He married in 1826 Jane Baillie Welsh, a beautiful, witty and well-educated Scotch girl, who could claim descent from William Wallace and John Knox. When they moved into their little home in Chelsea, Mrs. Carlyle wrote: "To see how they live and waste here, it is a wonder the whole city does not 'bankrupt and go out o' sicht.' I never cease to be glad that I was born on the other side of the Tweed, and that those who are nearest and dearest to me are Scotch." She was a great help to her husband, and were it not for the awful sicknesses, which so often assailed them both, a more congenial friendship could not be desired. His was a masculine mind, and when he brought the mighty machinery of his great intellect to think on a subject, he saw it bare, in the naked truth. From his wife he gained much help and inspiration, and many of the subtle intuitions found in his writings were unconsciously born of this combination. When she died he wrote: "The light of my life has gone out." While he had never been blessed with riches, he had been most generous in helping his brothers and sisters, making it possible for them to receive an education. In 1865 he was elected lord rector of the university at Edinburgh. He was always full of sweet thoughtfulness for children, and was usually very gentle with them. When the great Carlyle died Westminster would gladly have gathered his dust within those lofty portals, but he had preferred a quiet grave in his native soil, and was buried in Scotland. His life had been a hard one, struggling against the environments of his youth, later, with his own conscience, and the mighty efforts which he gave forth in his work, to say nothing of the physical pain which at times made his life most miserable. A stranger is liable to think of his harsh exterior, but under the outside armor pulsed a living and loving heart.

Perhaps it is hard to understand the character of this man unless one becomes very familiar with his works. All through his writings we are able to see that he is a dramatic artist of the highest type. At the same time he despised the formal in both art and life, and to even attract his attention, much less retain it, one had to be very thorough. To a congenial person he showed the best side of life's great nature, but to many people, perhaps, could not come under this classification, which likely accounts for the many unkind things that have been said and written against him. On one occasion, in the midst of a chattering circle of well-meaning acquaintances, he called out to his niece: "For God's sake, get me a pipe and an empty room!" Whatever may be cited in this line, we admire his grand character when we remember that he yielded not to the temptation of the flesh, the lowly and weak, and measured by this standard, "A truly great man," we may well call him. To be sure he had his defects and limitations, as he was certainly only human. If you would really know Carlyle study his books.

The Folly of Ignorance.

"I recently read an article in a farmers' paper to the effect that an isthmian canal would have the effect of bringing American labor into competition with Chinese labor, and that it would lower the price of wheat. The same article reports H. E. Miller, consul at Nin Chwang, China, as saying that the Chinese, with cheap land and American machinery, would sell wheat at 30 cents a bushel. Please discuss this subject in the Question Bureau."—Reader, Cortlandt, S. D.

If, as you say, you read such rot in a "farmers' paper," we pity the farmers who read and put credence in the utterances of such a sheet. You write an excellent hand, you spell and putuate properly, and your letter would indicate that you are a very intelligent person. Yet you ask us a question which the truth obliges us to stigmatize as silly. The statement about which you inquire is beneath discussion. It was born in ignorance or in demagogy. It is of the same sort as the statement, widely printed in the ignorant Bryanite press in 1898 and 1900 that, if we kept the Philippines, the "cheap labor" of these islands would overflow the United States and run wages down to one-quarter of the present rate. We have not taken the trouble to write to Washington about the alleged statement of a consul, for two reasons: First, that it is too absurd for sober discussion, second, that wheat can not be raised anywhere in the world and laid down at a profit in the seaboard cities of countries at any such price. Drop the idea at once, and turn your undoubted abilities into sensible channels.

No Liquor to Indians.

"Is it true that it is unlawful for anyone in the United States to sell intoxicating liquor to an Indian? I know it is unlawful to sell liquor on the reservations or at the Indian agencies, but some claim that no one has a right to sell to Indians anywhere."—E. J. V., Marshlands, Pa.

We are informed that it is unlawful to sell liquor to Indians on any reservation, or to any Indians in any territory under the direct control of congress—that is, in any of the territories of the United States. But when a teritory becomes a state, then such matters are in the hands of the state legislature. What these have done along this line in the states which contain Indians not taxed, we do not know. If any reader has the facts, we will be glad to publish them.

The Dred Scott Case.

"Lossing's history of the United States referring to the Dred Scott case, says: 'The state circuit court of St. Louis county in which the case was tried, gave judgment in his favor. This was reversed by the supreme court of the state, and the question was carried to and heard by the supreme court of the United States at Washington. * * That decision, uttered by the chief justice, was against Scott, the majority of the court agreeing with its head in denying to any person whose ancestors were imported slaves' any right to sue in a court of the United States, in other words, denying the right of citizenship to any person who had been a slave, or was the descendant of a slave.' In The Blade, in answer to W. A. S., you say: 'No negro was a citizen of any state and not entitled to vote in any state, on January 1, 1867.' How, then, did Scott's case traverse the court of Missouri, a slave state? If I am not greatly mistaken, a negro who was assessed for $500 was entitled to vote in this state (New York) for a ong time prior to 1867; am I wrong?"—W.

It maybe that the editor of the Question Bureau, in the sentence you quote, made too sweeping a statement. Certainly a slave was not a citizen of Missouri at the time of the Dred Scott case, and the decision of Chief Justice Taney, of the United States supreme court, declared expressly that Scott was not entitled to bring suit in the federal court because he was not a citizen. As to New York we do not know.

Massacre of St. Bartholomew.

"When did the Bartholomew massacre happen? Did the pope of Rome order the same? Was it not Protestants that were murdered, and did not the pope sing a Te Deum because they were murdered? Was it not planned a long time ahead to kill Protestants?"—F. G. H., Effingham, Ill.

The massacre was the slaughter of Huguenots, or French Protestants, on St. Bartholomew's day, August 24, 1572. Anything like a full account would involve a history of France for many years, for which we have not the space. Any good history of that country will give this. So we must perforce confine ourselves to the massacre and its immediate causes. A desperate political and social struggle had been waged for many years in France between the Catholics and Protestants, in which both parties committed numerous outrages. This struggle finally took the form of a conflict between the queen mother, Catherine de Medici, who was king, but he was feeble and vacillating, and his mother, Catherine de Medici, held the real power. It being certain that neither Charles nor his brother Henry would have children, the next in line of the throne was Henry of Navarre, afterward Henry IV. He was by birth and education a Protestant, and had distinguished himself in war. The king and his immediate family were Catholics.

In 1570 a peace had been patched up between the parties, which was to be made the more secure by the marriage of Henry of Navarre to Margaret of Valois, sister of the king. August 18, 1572, was the date for the wedding, and many of the leading Huguenots of France were assembled in Paris. On the 22d, Admiral Coligni, one of the leading Huguenots, was fired upon by an assassin known to be a creature of Catherine de Medici (Med-e-shee), mother of the king, who was jealous of the influence the admiral had acquired over the monarch. Coligni was not killed, but only badly wounded. The king visited him, and swore the assassin should be punished. The Huguenots were alarmed and threatened reprisals. Catherine persuaded her son, the king, that a massacre of Catholics by Huguenots was imminent, and that the only thing to be done was to anticipate them.

Under her influence, King Charles gave an order for the general massacre of Huguenots, the signal to be the tolling of the bell of the church of St. Germain l'Auxerrois. The execution of this was intrusted to the duke of Guise, the Italian guards of the palace, companies of citizens and burghers. Orders were sent to all the principal cities, directing a simultaneous massacre throughout France. The first victim in Paris was the wounded Admiral Coligni. He was run through the body with swords, and flung into the street, where the duke of Guise was waiting. At 4 o'clock in the morning the bell signal was given, and the massacre began. The slaughter in Paris lasted several days. The orders for the massacre were executed in nearly all the cities and towns of France as speedily as they were received from Paris. The number of persons thus murdered can not be ascertained. The most conservative estimate is 30,000. Pope Gregory XIII ordered a solemn Te Deum to be sung in St. Peter's; but it is to be remembered that the accounts which reached him, the affair grew out of an unsuccessful conspiracy against the French government and the Catholic religion. The Pope gave no orders for the massacre; nor did he know of it until after it was over.

Cement.

"What chemical is it in lime, gypsum and cement that hardens when mixed with water? Does the burning of the clay change the chemical conditions? Where can I get a book that will explain it?"—F. F., Vicksburg, Mich.

The hardening is the result of chemical changes. Take ordinary lime, for instance. Limestone is compared principally of carbonate of lime. When it is burned in a kiln, the heat drives off the carbonic acid, which is a gas, and leaves the lime. This is mixed with water, and a new chemical compound, hydrate of lime, is formed by the chemical mixture of the water and the lime. This is mixed with sand, and is used as mortar. Slowly, as time passes, the carbonic acid which is always present in the atmosphere unites with the lime, allowing the water to evaporate, and carbonate of lime is again formed. Also, the silica of the sand—which, chemically speaking, is silicic acid—unites with a portion of the lime, forming silicate of lime. The silicate and the carbonate of lime are both hard substances. Hence, old, well-made mortar will be found as hard as stone itself.

Hydraulic cements possess the quality of setting rapidly when immersed in water, and of then continuously hardening. This is because of the strong affinity of quicklime for silica and alumina, and from the affinity the resultant compounds have for water, forming insoluble compounds. The burning of the clay drives off the carbonic acid which is in combination with the lime as carbonate of lime; and the latter is reduced to caustic lime, or quicklime, as it is often called. We presume there are books which discuss these questions in a practical way. Get your bookseller to order, from some publisher of industrial works, a list of these.

Colonization of Negroes.

"What provision does the United States government make for the negro who wishes to colonize himself?"—L. S. H., Alexis, N. C.

Do you mean provision for his colonization in some other country than the United States? In that case, there is no provision. This country does not help its own citizens to leave it, and settle in some other country. Why should it? No nation in the world does that.

If you mean to settle elsewhere in this country, then there is no provision except the homestead laws. These give to every citizen, without regard to color or race, the privilege of living on 160 acres of government land, building a home, and cultivating it for five years, at the end of which he gets a clear title to the land.

There is no special provision for negroes of any kind whatsoever. Why should there be? Why should the government grant special favors to any class of citizens which are not given to other classes? We should be glad to know from you if there is not an attempt being made to swindle the colored citizens of your state into paying money, on false statements made to them.

Graphite.

"In digging a cistern, I found some graphite or black lead. What is it used for, and has it any value?"—J. L. F., Oak Grove, Tenn.

If it is really graphite, and in quantity large enough to make mining profitable, it is a money-maker. It is used in making pencils, for crucibles, as a lubricant, and for many other purposes in the arts.

Relationship.

"If two men, not related, were to marry two sisters, what relation, if any, would they be? Would they be brothers-in-law?"—W. W., Herrick, Ill.

In a good many cases of dispute, a definition of the terms used, agreed to by both parties, would settle the matter at once; and probably it is true in this case. There are two meanings to the word "relation," when referring to persons. One is consanguinity, or relationship by blood; the other is, relationship by law. A man marries a woman, not related to him by blood. The only relationships between either and the blood relatives of the other are legal relationships. Thus the mother and father of husband or wife are the mother-in-law and father-in-law of the other party. There is no blood relationship—only one of law and courtesy, as is expressed by the phrase, "in law," which is used to distinguish such legal connection from blood relationship. In the case you mention, the two men are brothers "in law," not brothers by blood. Inheritance goes by blood only, except in the case of the surviving wife or husband.

Hell.

"Who made hell, if there is such a place? It would seem impossible for a fallen angel to have made it."—Subscriber, Upland, Cal.

We publish this question simply to show that it should not be asked. No man can answer it; the Bible does not tell; therefore, why waste time in discussing it? We may say, in addition, that the word which the translators of the Bible generally rendered "hell" is the Hebrew word sheol, which means the place of departed spirits and not a place of punishment for the wicked. In many places in the Old Testament sheol means simply "the grave," as in Genesis xxxvii, 35; xlii, 38; 1st Samuel, ii 6; Job xiv, 13. The New Testament books were written in Greek, not in Hebrew. The Greek word hades means sometimes "the grave," and sometimes "the unseen world." In the creed, one article says of Christ that "he descended into hell," where the word means simply the unseen world, the place of departed spirits. The word used most frequently in the New Testament for the place of future punishment is Gehenna.

Flint and Steel.

"Is electricity concerned in the striking of flint and steel?"—J. S. R., North Clarendon, Pa.

None whatever. The sudden impact causes friction enough to break off a small particle of steel and heat it red-hot—just the same as when one is grinding a steel tool on a rapidly-revolving emery wheel a stream of sparks flies off.

That Poem.

Editor Blade: In reply to your inquiry as to who is the author of the poem, The Burial of Washington. The poem is in Sander's fifth reader, printed in 1853. M. S. Pike is credited with the authorship.—O. A. H., Mattawan, Mich.

John Wilkes Booth.

"Is it known definitely whether John Wilkes Booth was ever captured or not?"—E. F. W., Fulton, O.

It is known to an absolute certainty that John Wilkes Booth was shot by Boston Corbett, an United States soldier, in a barn where Booth had been run down by a pursuing party. His body was brought to Washington and fully identified.

St. Louis Exposition.

"What does the St. Louis exposition represent?"—Subscriber, Neptune, Fla.

The official title of the exposition is the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. It is held to commemorate the centennial of the purchase of Louisiana from France, in 1803, under President Jefferson. What was then called Louisiana embraced the vast region west of the Mississippi to the Rocky mountains and Texas. The exposition, however, will not be held until 1904, because it is impossible to get ready for 1903.

Roosevelt in 1900.

"Prior to the last national Republican convention, was there among the Republicans of the whole country, as indicated in the public press, by resolutions of conventions, or otherwise, any well defined choice that could serve to direct or guide the delegates to said convention in nominating a candidate for the vice-presidency?"—G. P. P., Soldiers' Home, Cal.

There was a most emphatic feeling in favor of Mr. Roosevelt for second place, among Republicans all over the nation. In point of fact, there was no one else whose name was mentioned for that place before the convention except Mr. Roosevelt.

The $300 for a Substitute.

"Is there any law or way to recover $300 that must be paid to pay that were drafted for the civil war in 1862?"—Reader, Clarion, County, Pa.

There is no law and no way of getting the money back. A drafted man had his choice—to go to the army andserve, or pay $300. If he did the latter he has no claim whatever on the government for the return of the money.

A Wife's Signature.

"Suppose my name is Amy, and my husband's name John Smith; what is the correct and proper way for me to sign my name when writing to a stranger or to a friend—Amy Smith, or Mrs. Amy Smith or Mrs. John Smith."—Amy, Ashville, N. Y.

To all legal documents and similar papers you should sign "Amy —— Smith," putting your maiden name in the blank. In signatures to letters, either use the same form, or "Mrs." in both cases; thesis; or "(Mrs.) Amy Smith." The fashion of writing a woman's maiden name as a middle name is growing.

Miscellaneous.

R. E. F., Independence, Ore.: We don't know.

A. L. J., Moody, N. Y.: We are sorry to say we have nothing which would answer you.

S. F. H., Robbinville, N. C.: We are sorry to say we know nothing about his life, and have no means of finding out.

Sub., Brownsville, Ore.: The state capitol of Texas is the finest and costliest in the United States. That of Iowa is far inferior.

A. B., Trenton, Mo.: Can't do it. Read The Blade news summary carefully each week and you will have the principal happenings of the year.

Subscriber, Gaines, Mich.: In case of a vote in which a majority of those present abstained from voting, the chairman should have compelled a vote that would express the majority sentiment. Disabled chairman and get a man who has nerve to do business.

O. H., Elk, Ind.—Your question should not have been sent us, because it is not of general interest. We knew nothing about the matter. You should have addressed a letter of inquiry to the "state superintendent of schools, Charleston, W. Va."

H. M. R., Dennison, O.: Send a copy or a description of your family coat of arms to "College of Arms, Queen Victoria street, E. C., London, England," and ask what their fee will be to furnish you authentic information.

C. W. R., Baldwin, Neb.: There is no such thing as noiseless gunpowder. The chemical union which causes the explosion necessarily makes a noise. The fool who said there was "a law requiring a chemical ingredient to produce noise," ought to have a guardian appointed for himself.

A. H., Red Cloud, Neb.: Make a written agreement, putting a fixed money value on whatever property each partner puts into the business, and if an additional portion of land is to be bought, have it purchased by the firm jointly. It is such loose, careless and unbusinesslike arrangements as you suggest which cause lawsuits and loss. Be business!

Tell Me Who Needs Help

No Money Is Wanted

To aid a sick friend, will you tell me the book he needs? Will you simply write a postal card, if I will do this?

I will mail the sick one an order—good at any drug store—for six bottles Dr. Shoop's Restorative. He may take it a month at my risk. If it succeeds, the cost is $5.50. If it fails, I will pay the druggist myself.

That month will show if the remedy can cure. If the sick one is then disappointed, the test shall not cost him a penny.

I have furnished my Restorative to hundreds of thousands in that way, and 39 out of each 40 got well, and have paid for it.

It is a remarkable remedy that can stand a test like that, and I have spent a lifetime on it. It is the only remedy that strengthens the inside nerves—those nerves which alone operate the vital organs. There is positively no other way to make weak organs well.

My book will convince you. You will not wonder then why this offer is possible.

Simply state which book you want, and address Dr. Shoop, box 828, Racine, Wis.

Book No. 1 on Dyspepsia.
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Mild cases, not chronic, are often cured by one or two bottles. At all druggists.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher.

Harmless.

"Confound these literary clubs, I say! My wife's crazy over Browning."

"She's mine, but I'm not raising any objections. Browning's dead."—Washington Times.

Summit and Vale.

The light hangs over the mountain top
But gray and misty the plain;
The sun's aglow on eternal snow,
But down in the valley, the rain.

And life is so, the sun aglow
On the mountains far, while the rain's below.

—Alice Moore Dunbar in Lippincott's for December.

THE "WHITE HORSE."

Its Connection With Joseph Bonaparte's Stay in America.

A trolley line now runs by the door; the men who enter the taproom are not clothed as picturesquely as were the old world men who wore white wigs and knickerbockers and saw the birth of our Constitution; the flaring boards advertising progressive brewers do not harmonize with the old sign that, bearing a freshly painted white horse, swings beneath them; but, in spite of all, a great deal of the charm of a hundred years ago must cling to the old tavern. And then it is still in the country, and after dark, when the intermittent stream of trolleys has temporarily ceased, one may grow romantic, and may even imagine he sees the French coach of Joseph Bonaparte swinging up to the tavern with a great deal of unnecessary noise, but with much pomp and glory.

The old "White Horse" stands about two miles from Trenton, N. J., on the Crosswicks road, and, with the exception of two or three straggling houses, is isolated. Opposite is an ancient blacksmith shop, overhung with the heavy branches of sycamore trees.

If you are wise you will go as the observer went, when the insistent brewers' signs pale into insignificance, and when you see, in the light from the taproom window, only the archaic white horse, while the landlord's uneuphonious name of "Andrew Gropp," is ignominiously cast out into outer darkness.

Seen at this time with its melancholy outline silhouetted against the faint after-glow in the west, with its old sign creaking dismally in the night breeze, and with uncertain candle light struggling through its dusty, small-paned windows, the tavern is reincarnated in its original form.

The observer shivered as he approached, because everything was so quiet and dark and old. Then he opened the door, and standing for a moment on the threshold, hurriedly glanced at the picture within.

A round stove occupied the center of the room, an old-fashioned bar stood at one end, and back of it—all praise to the progressive proprietor—was a mirror, framed in such modern and hideous taste that it seemed to reflect the rest of the room in a half shamefaced fashion as though it realized its unworthiness of the honor thus bestowed upon it.

But the observer noticed a bench in the corner that must have outlived several generations of tavern keepers, so he sat down with a smile; then came the proprietor, and forgot to smile again.

This person was too portly for such a small room, and, breathing heavily, seemed to inhale all the air in the apartment and to expel it unwillingly as though he treasured every molecule.

"Are you the landlord?" the observer asked with a gasp. He was trying to imagine things.

"You can call me that if you choose," the portly one replied. "Want some beer?"

"What kind have you?" the observer asked weakly.

"Light and dark. It's good."

The observer rose quickly. "What did Joseph Bonaparte drink?"

"Don't know him," replied the landlord. "Never heard of him."

His expression clearly hinted that if nothing should be brought, so a glass of the obtrusive beer was ordered. "So you never heard of Joseph Bonaparte, or Prince Murat?" the observer asked the landlord.

"Can't say that I have."

Then did the observer tell him many things. How Bonaparte's nephew, the young prince, had been seen by the fathers of men still living shamefully intoxicated in this very room. How his uncle, the one time king of Spain, had come here night after night to take him back to his Bordentown home. How every room, every board, every inch of this tavern were stirringly reminiscent of the Bonapartes; but he only smiled and looked at the empty glass. So the observer turned helplessly and walked through the small rooms on the ground floor; but they had been filled with modern cheap furniture until old walls seemed mutely to beg for sympathy.

"Are you going so soon? It's come up a shower."

But the observer had already dashed through the taproom door and stood for a moment in the rain, looking back at the little building that had seen so much but could tell so little. Then his heart leaped, for he heard the rumbling wheels of a heavy wagon, and half thought to see the specire of the Bonaparte coach looming through the mist. But it was something quite different, so he climbed in and sat beside a sleepy farmer. It seemed very comfortable to escape the rain in this way.

A STANDARD SHAKESPEARE

"Give us a standard and universally accepted Shakespeare," the young man remarked, as he poured over the yellow pages of an old volume, "one that we can turn to with the belief that it is correct and authoritative in all respects. There are so many Shakespeares on the market we can never tell just when we are right, if we are to quote the bard of Avon on any important subject. By all means there should be a standard to guide us in this respect. While Shakespeare probably came nearer writing English as we know it in these modern times than any of the men of his day, one may yet find much in his works that is Chauceresque in verbiage and hence puzzling to many persons whose English training is limited to the crude curriculum of the log schoolhouse. Of course, we would have to depend on the higher literary judgment for such a standard as I have in mind. It should be an easy matter for the literary minds of the world to agree upon someone to copy Shakespeare. Such happened in the case of other English books. There is, for instance, Chitty's Blackstone, which is universally looked upon with favor by members of the legal fraternity. Is it not so of Chaucer? Is it not so of a great many other English writers? Why may we not have a standard Shakespeare? By all means, give us one. Let the best literary judgment of the English-speaking world bestir itself and give us a safe light to go by. I can think of nothing that would be more welcome than a standard and universally accepted Shakespeare, so let's have it forthwith."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

SURVIVAL OF FEUDALISM

There has been another sale of boots for the benefit of the duke of Northumberland at Alnwick. The last took place in 1899, and then, as now, the boots were the property of Alfred Burn, a local bootmaker. Mr. Burn is an owner of freehold property in Alnwick who refuses to admit the validity of the duke's claim to a quitrent of is 1d a year, and part of his stock—on the last occasion it was six pairs of boots—is periodically seized by his grace's minions and put up for sale by auction in satisfaction of the ducal demand. I suppose that the duke is legally entitled to the quit-rent, but Mr. Burn can be fined for resisting payment of what he truly describes as a petty, vexatious and unjust tax, and it is a wonder that more of the freeholders of the town do not take the same course. The "lord" who pockets the quit-rent ceased long ago to render any of the services for which it was originally paid, and such a survival of feudalism should not be tolerated in the twentieth century.—London Truth.

LATE INTELLIGENCE.

Hades, Dec. 2—The soft coal nuisance is abating.

The tipping system is growing. It is agreed that it is Hell.

The hollows men who were on strike have returned to work.

A Boston girl who has been here ten years responsive still has cold feet.

The Eskimos held their annual Thanksgiving yesterday.—New York Evening Sun.

ARE YOUR KIDNEYS WEAK?

Thousands Have Kidney Trouble and Never Suspect It.

To Prove What the Great Kidney Remedy, Swamp-Root, Will Do for YOU, Every Reader of The Blade May Have a Sample Bottle Sent Absolutely Free by Mail.

It used to be considered that only urinary and bladder troubles were to be traced to the kidneys, but now modern science proves that nearly all diseases have their beginning in the disorder of these most important organs.

The kidneys filter and purify the blood—that is their work.

Therefore, when your kidneys are weak or out of order, you can understand how quickly your entire body is affected, and how every organ seems to fail to do its duty.

If you are sick or "feel badly," begin taking the great kidney remedy, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, because as soon as your kidneys are well, they will help all the other organs to health. A trial will convince anyone.

Weak and unhealthy kidneys are responsible for many kinds of diseases, and if permitted to continue, much suffering with fatal results are sure to follow. Kidney trouble irritates the nerves, makes you dizzy, restless, sleepless and irritable. Makes you pass water often during the day and obliges you to get up many times during the night. Unhealthy kidneys cause rheumatism, gravel, catarrh of the bladder, pain or dull ache in the back, joints and muscles; makes your head ache and back ache, causes indigestion, stomach and liver trouble, you get a sallow, yellow complexion, makes you feel as though you had heart trouble; you may have plenty of ambition, but no strength; get weak and waste away.

The cure for these troubles is Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the world-famous kidney remedy. In taking Swamp-Root you afford natural help to Nature, for Swamp-Root is the most perfect healer and gentle aid to the kidneys that is known to medical science.

If there is any doubt in your mind as to your condition, take from your urine on rising about four ounces, place it in a glass or bottle and let it stand twenty-four hours. If on examination it is milky or cloudy, if there is a brick dust settling, or if small particles float about in it, your kidneys are in need of immediate attention.

Swamp-Root is pleasant to take and is used in the leading h

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1902.

Largest and Best Weekly Published and Largest Circulation.

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ROBINSON LOCKE.... ....Editor

THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover, each week, all news topics of real interest to all wide-awake and thinking men. Its editorial page is the strongest and most thoughtful of any in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is intended for the homes of the free American people.

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CULLOM AGAINST TRUSTS.

Senator Cullom, of Illinois, has introduced a bill to amend the Sherman anti-trust law. This measure, the only national law ever enacted on the subject, was passed by a Republican Congress and signed by a Republican President, Benjamin Harrison. Its central purpose is to attack monopolistic combinations whose products enter interstate commerce, and it authorizes proceedings by injunction against any act of theirs which is in restraint of such commerce. This law has curbed some of them, and has acted as a deterrent in the cases of very many others. Its effect has thus been salutary. Attorney General Knox gives the Sherman law high praise, and has expressed the view that it can be made effective in the cases brought under it which are now pending.

The Cullom bill amendatory to it is understood to follow the lines of the attorney general's suggestions. It provides that no article of commerce produced by any person or combination carrying on business for the purpose of controlling or monopolizing the manufacture, production or sale of any article of commerce, or for appreciably affecting the cost of such article of commerce to the consumer, or for the prevention of competition in the manufacture, production or sale thereof, shall be transported or carried without the state or territory in which produced or manufactured, and every person, corporation, etc., carrying on business for any of the purposes aforesaid may be perpetually enjoined and restrained from doing or carrying on any interstate or foreign commerce whatever.

In brief, the Cullom bill, as introduced, would make it impossible for any monopoly to enter on interstate or foreign commerce, or to do any business outside the state or territory wherein organized. There are two perplexing questions which arise at once, Does the constitutional grant of power to Congress to regulate commerce between the states and with foreign nations extend far enough to allow Congress to prevent acts which have no necessary relation to such commerce? For it must be remembered that the manufacture of an article designed to be sold is not commerce. The other is, How can the government prove the purpose of a combination? The burden of proof always falls upon the prosecution. Should this bill become a law, then the government would have to prove that the purpose of the individual or the combination is to effect a monopoly or to restrain competition. The difficulty of proving such an allegation is probably plain to every one.

We point out these facts, not by way of opposing anti-trust legislation, but to call attention to the great difficulty of drafting a measure that will not go beyond the powers granted to Congress, and which can reach the control of trusts in an effective manner. The remaining feature of the Cullom bill is the provision for publicity. This requires every person or combination engaged in any business which requires interstate commerce, when the capital employed exceeds a million dollars, to make a return in writing, verified by oath, which shall include full details in reference to the business carried on or proposed to be carried on. This section applies only to those corporations, etc, whose business necessitates the carrying on of "interstate commerce." This report shall be made annually, and supplementary reports may be called for at any time by the interstate commerce commission. This provision can be enforced, and is in line with the ideas of the President. There is no doubt the Cullom bill will be amended considerably before it becomes a law, if it ever does; but it is certain that its main ideas will be retained in whatever anti-trust legislation is enacted by Congress.

THE NILE DAM.

Tuesday, December 9, was the day for the formal opening of the great Nile dam at Assouan, the Duke of Connaught presiding over the official ceremonies. This dam has well been called "the most stupendous structure of the twentieth century"—a monument to modern utilitarianism. Within sight of it are the remains of temples and tombs of the old Pharaohs, and the contrast is striking. The hoary old ruins are the survivals of structures erected through religious feeling, or to gratify the name and memory of the tyrant who built them by the labor of an enslaved people; the dam is the means whereby an artificial lake 140 miles long will be created, whose waters will bring fertility to 2,500 square miles of what is now desert, thus reclaiming to agricultural use lands whose value is estimated at $100,000,000.

The actual work of the dam was begun in February, 1899, and but three and a half years has been required for the erection, the total cost of which will be $24,000,000. It is founded upon the solid granite, a mighty ledge of which here crosses the river, and formed one of the cataracts of the Nile. The English government has practical control of Egypt, and will eventually make of it one of the most populous and prosperous countries of the globe, after centuries of degradation and misrule.

Lakewood, a suburb of Cleveland, has abolished its saloons under the Beal law, and the real estate men are calling attention to its consequent desirability as a place of residence. It is the most effective argument they can use with home-seekers who have growing families.

TOM REED, OF MAINE

Thomas Brackett Reed was a great lawyer, an excellent legislator, and one of the few men who achieved distinction in political life and yet voluntarily withdrew from politics before he became a "back number." He came into national prominence and Republican favor almost at a bound, when he was chosen speaker of the Fifty-first congress. The Republicans had control of the house by a very narrow majority, while the Democratic minority was active, united and vigilant. It had determined on a policy of obstruction to all Republican legislation; and the majority of that party was so small that success appeared certain.

The long-standing custom of the house was not to count a member present unless he answered to his name on roll call. This led to a favorite method of obstruction by a minority. A roll call would be demanded upon some point, and the minority members would not answer to their names. The total of the vote would show less than a quorum; the point of "no quorum" would be made, thus blocking the passage of whatever measure was the object of obstructive tactics. Mr. Reed saw that this difficulty must be overcome.

So one day he simply ordered the clerk to record as present all Democrats who were in the chamber, but had refused to answer to roll call. This caused a scene of the wildest confusion. The Democrats were furious at the checkmate, and appealed to the house from the ruling of the chair. For two days the speaker refused to entertain the appeal; and from this came his soubriquet of "Czar" Reed—the angry Democrats saying that he was assuming the autocratic powers of the czar of Russia.

This was early in the session, before rules of procedure had been finally adopted. When the appeal was entertained the Republican members were all in attendance, and had a majority. Mr. Reed was sustained, and the new rules, when adopted, contained the new provision. The common sense of the ruling was recognized, and in succeeding congresses, with the Democrats in power, it was maintained, as it has been ever since. It prevents obstructive tactics, and allows the majority to do business.

Mr. Reed was a candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination in 1896, but the great popularity of Major McKinley, as the leader of the battle for a protective tariff, blighted the Maine man's aspirations. He gradually grew out of touch with President McKinley's administration, and finally resigned from congress on September 4, 1899, to associate himself with a New York law firm. He thus voluntarily ended a public career which began in 1868 by his electon to the lower house of the Maine legislature; for it is a remarkable fact that from that time until his retirement, in 1899, he was continually in public office. The last twenty-two years—from 1877 to 1899—was spent in the house, his renomination being unanimous, term after term, and his only real fight at the polls being in 1880, when the Democratic-Greenback movement was exceedingly strong in Maine.

Mr. Reed was, in many respects, the greatest party leader since James G. Blaine. He was a statesman as well. His knowledge of constitutional law was great, his logical processes were sound, and he could not be swerved from doing his duty as he saw it. An iron will, and the ability to keep his temper on even the most trying occasions, aided him in many a difficult parliamentary or political battle. His speeches were models. He presented his argument, and backed it by facts, in a manner which was the despair of his opponents. He was one of the best campaigners on the long roll of great Republican leaders and his retirement from political life was received with profound regret by the masses of the party from ocean to ocean, and by none more so than his sturdy constituents of the First Maine district.

RAILROAD VS. SALOON.

The Lake Shore Railroad is taking a hand in the local option fight in Collinwood, a suburb of Cleveland. The has been a lively campaign in that suburb for some time between the "wets" and the "drys" and the election is scheduled for next Thursday. The Lake Shore has shops at this point and is preparing to rebuild them and has arranged for the expenditure of a million dollars for that purpose. Now this great corporation has given the citizens to understand that if the town goes dry Thursday it will double the sum and the new shops will cost two million instead of one million. Not only this, if the town goes dry a lot of land will be purchased and sold at cost to employes of the Lake Shore Company.

Superintendent Marshall, of the Lake Shore, is quoted as saying that the expenditure of an additional million will not be made if the town votes to continue the saloons, for, as it is, the road cannot keep there the kind of skilled workmen it wants.

It is not often that a great corporation like the Lake Shore takes such a decided stand on a question like this, but it is merely another evidence of the growth of temperance sentiment and the opposition to the saloon among the best business men of the country. Collinwood now has another incentive to go "dry" and secure that additional million dollar improvement.

INAUGURHTION DAY.

The effort to change the date of Presidential inaugurations from March 4 to April 30, will be pushed vigorously at the present session of congress. The senate passed a resolution at the last session providing for a constitutional amendment fixing the date of the inauguration on April 30, and it is now before the house committee on judiciary, with indications of a favorable report.

Should the house also adopt the resolution, then the amendment will go to the legislatures of the states for their approval. If three-fourths of these ratify it, then it becomes a part of the constitution of the United States. In that case, only one more inauguration—that of 1905—would take place on March 4. The reason for selecting a later date is that early March so often has inclement weather in the latitude of Washington; and April 30 was chosen because it is the date on which Washington was first inaugurated President.

The supreme court of Minnesota has decided that it is a crime to give away liquor in that state without having a license to traffic in intoxicants. The liquor law of that state is based upon the proposition that liquor drinking is an evil which must be regulated.

THE NEXT SPEAKERSHIP.

Mr. Cannon, of Illinois, will be elected speaker of the House of the Fifty-eighth Congress in December of next year, if he shall be living then—and his health is in a very fair state. It is unusual to have the succession to the second most important office under this government settled by what is practically the unanimous action of the majority party in the House, and so far in advance. Mr. Cannon may well consider the fact of his selection in such an harmonious manner as a high testimony to his own fitness for the place, as well as to the esteem in which he is held by his fellow-members.

There is usually a very warm contest for this position, and more than once the current of our political history has been changed by the outcome. A notable instance of this was the choice of a speaker in 1889, when the Republicans succeeded to power under President Harrison. The leading candidates were McKinley and Reed, and there was a very animated contest in the Republican caucus, which ended in the selection of the Maine statesman. Following the gracious precedents of the past, Mr. Reed placed his defeated competitor at the head of the Ways and Means committee. The tariff bill prepared by that committee was named from the chairman, as the custom is. The fierce political discussions over the "McKinley bill" placed the Ohioan at the head and front of the protection forces and made him President in 1896.

Had McKinley won the speakership, he would without doubt have bestowed that chairmanship on Mr. Reed. The protective measure the Republicans were intent upon passing would then have been called the "Reed bill," and the same popular revulsion against the ill-starred Wilson low tariff would have made Reed the nominee of his party and have swept him into the Presidency on the tidal wave for protection and sound money in 1896.

The Ohio Republican congressmen, by holding a caucus at Columbus and pledging their support to Mr. Cannon, gave him a clear majority; and all that was left for those Republican Representatives who had not yet signified their choice was to accept the fact that Cannon had a majority, and send in their belated adhesion. Ohio should obtain the chairmanship of the ways and means committee because of the organized action of her Representatives; or, if the valuable services of Mr. Payne should continue him in that position, then Ohio should have the Appropriations committee chairmanship, which Mr. Cannon himself has held for a number of years.

THOMAS NAST DEAD.

The tidings of the death of Thomas Nast, consul at Guayaquil, of yellow fever, comes with a shock to Americans of the older generation, who recall "Tom" Nast's cartoons in Harper's Weekly as the most effective of political arguments. His career as a political cartoonist and pictorial satirist began on that paper in 1862. His very first political caricature, an allegorical design aimed at the "peace at any price" party, was a success, and brought him at once into popular favor. Then, when the "Tweed ring" dominated New York city, his vigorous cartoons of Tweed and his associates in public plundering, week by week, were an important factor in the overthrow of the gang. In 1872 he did splendid work for the election of Grant over Horace Greeley.

Mr. Nast's industry was as great as his fertility of design and vigor of execution were astonishing. In the years of his greatest activity, besides his work for Harper's Weekly, he drew for comic papers, and illustrated a number of books, among them several volumes of D. R. Locke's "Nasby" letters. Later he lectured in the principal cities, drawing huge caricatures in crayon by way of illustration during the progress of his lecture. In June last he was appointed consul to Guayaquil by President Roosevelt. He was born in Bavaria in 1840, but came to America when but six years of age.

THE AMERICAN FARMER.

The United States is a big country, we know; but perhaps some of us could not answer off-hand the question, "What is the biggest industry in America?" Secretary Wilson's report answers it—agriculture; and the American farmer is the biggest individual. Farming is not a trust-ridden industry, and the farmer is the most independent person in the land.

Agriculture in the United States, according to Mr. Wilson's figures, represents a fixed capital of about twenty billion dollars. We have 5,000,740 farms, containing a total of 841,000,000 acres, of which 415,000,000 are improved. About 40,000,000 of our total population live upon the farms, and of the 29,000,000 persons engaged in gainful occupations, 10,000,000, or more than one-third, are employed in agricultural pursuits.

The annual returns from agriculture in all its branches aggregate nearly $5,000,000,000. The greater portion of this enormous total is derived from the sale of corn, hay, cotton, wheat, oats and live stock Dairy products foot up $472,000,000, and the great American hen puts $281,000,000 into the pocket of the farmer. Hence it is clear that the agricultural gentleman is fairly well fixed; and scarcely any other industry brings better returns for intelligent work and industrious habits. It takes as high a degree of special knowledge and of business ability to run a modern American farm as is required in any business conducted by city dwellers. The farmer who does not make money these days is certainly lacking in some of the necessary qualifications. The fault is in himself, not in his occupation.

The sinking value of silver is driving the few nations which still adhere to the silver standard to the gold basis. Siam has announced the change, the Straits Settlement will do the same, and Mexico is getting ready for the inevitable. The varying value of the Mexican silver dollar has compelled the Mexican International Railway to take a new departure. Their machinists will be paid in American gold at $3.30 to $3.50 per day, or in Mexican silver at the average rate of exchange for the month. The days of silver as a basic money metal are past.

Those persons who are going into convulsions over Reed Smoot should bear in mind two things: In the first place Mr. Smoot has not been elected to the United States Senate, and in the second place his case does not come in the Roberts class.

Mr. Bryan and the Bryan dollar now look little better than 30 cents.

WHAT THE TROUBLE IS.

The difficulties betwen Venezuela on the one hand, and Germany and Great Britain on the other, are simply because the government of the South American Republic has persistently violated the rights of the subjects of the two European countries. The latter had grants and government concessions for mines, railroads, etc., obtained by purchase or grants from preceding administrations; these have been forcibly taken away by the Castro government. Contracts made and filled for government supplies have not been paid for. The property of British and German subjects has been forcibly seized; and in some cases they have suffered imprisonment on trivial charges.

Naturally these persons appealed to their own governments for redress. It is a recognized principle of international law that every government has the right to protect its citizens or subjects in any other country where they are unjustly treated. Claims for damages to their subjects, on the above-named counts, were preferred by the British and German governments, but they have been ignored, year after year, by President Castro. Now they propose to collect these claims by force, and incidentally teach Castro and the Venezuelans that the rights of foreigners doing business in their country must be respected.

It is probable that the two governments, working together, will seize the custom houses at Venezuelan ports, collect the duties on imported goods, and pay themselves out of these collections. It will be recalled that Great Britain did this a few years ago at Corinto, on the west coast of Nicaragua, to satisfy the claim of an English merchant against the government of that country. The United States does not consider such a step as violating the Monroe Doctrine; and so long as Germany and Great Britain do not permanently acquire any Venezuelan territory, and do not attempt to colonize, they will not be interfered with in their disciplining of that republic.

But there may arise very serious complications. President Castro, it is said, has announced that if the custom houses are seized, he will declare free trade between Venezuela and the whole world. If he should do this, then the German and English officials holding the custom houses would have nothing to collect. They could not enforce the payment of any duties, because that would involve the assumption of sovereignty over Venezuela.

They might declare a blockade of all Venezuelan ports; and their combined naval force in those waters is able to do this. But the cutting off of all communication by sea would probably injure the foreigners in Venezuela more than it would the natives. There would be only one other course—to declare war against that country, and prosecute it until the claims are paid.

Such a course would inevitably lead to serious complications, because the Monroe Doctrine would certainly be involved. We might then expect to see Admiral Dewey's fleet, now rendezvoused at Culebtra, hurrying to the Venezuelan coast. Altogether the situation is one that posseses dangerous elements—the more so as it is possible, perhaps probable, that Castro hopes to manage matters so as to involve the United States in the quarrel.

FILIPINO PROGRESS.

Prof. H. G. Lamson has just spent a year in the Philippines, and he enumerates three things which he rightly interprets as signs of progress along the line of modern civilization. There are: Rapidly-increasing interest in the Americanized schools, and in education; an increase in industry; and a largely-increased demand among the natives for soap.

Prof. Lamson is right. Education, industrious habits and cleanliness are three very important factors in progress. People who exhibit them are certainly on the road to advancement. Some one said—and truly—that the amount of soap consumed per capita by a nation is a fair index of its degree of civilization. Hence it is perfectly proper to include this as one of the signs of hope on the Filipino horizon.

Progress among the adults, however, will be slow. But when the children, now being instructed in American schools, shall reach maturity, things will move far more rapidly. Naturally it is slow work to bring to the front a people who are four hundred years, at least, behind twentieth century standards; but education and American push will do all that can be done to bring the Filipinos forward.

A LOCOMOTIVE FAMINE.

The mighty expansion of trade in the United States has caused a veritable famine of motive power on the great trunk railway lines. There are not locomotives enough in the country to move the freight offered. Every locomotive works in the country has been rushing its orders for months, but the supply of engines is far short of the demand.

The Pennsylvania has leased the entire motive power of the Duluth & Iron Range railway for the winter. That road is used only to bring iron ore from the mines to the ports at which it is shipped to Lake Erie, and the season of navigation being over, its engines are idle. In all, the Pennsylvania is said to have leased 100 engines. The Erie road is short fifty locomotives, and the other great lines need more than they have or can obtain.

This enormous freight traffic means that the industries and commerce of the United States are growing at a pace which distances all previous records. There is nothing in sight to indicate any cessation of this activity in all lines. The workers are busy, the nation is growing rapidly in wealth, and the people are prospering individually. The year is closing satisfactorily to the great world of business, and 1903 is bright with roseate anticipations of a continuation of our marvelous prosperity.

One of the defeated Democratic candidates for congress in Connecticut declares that half the voters in the rural towns can be bought. It is just as well this man was defeated.

Republicans carried 101 out of 105 counties in Kansas at the recent election. There does not seem to be anything in particular the matter with Kansas this year.

No, gentle reader, do not worry yourself over the prospective revision of the tariff. There will be nothing of the kind at this session of Congress.

THE PRESIDENT—"THE TREE IS ALL RIGHT, BUT NEEDS A LITTLE PRUNING."

COMMENT OF THE WEEK.

Ontario Prohibition Vote.

An election of unusual interest to the temperance people and liquor interests of Ontario, Can., was held in that province on Thursday, December 4. The question at issue was whether the sale of liquor, except for medicinal, sacramental or mechanical purposes should be prohibited, the law to become operative on and after May 1, 1904. Under a law, had the vote been in favor of prohibition, the drug stores still sell liquor and every man could import all he wanted from the province of Quebec or any other province or country beyond the boundaries of Ontario. But, if the proposition had carried, no saloon or bar would have been legal in the latter province, and it would have been a crime to drink or give liquor for drinking purposes in any club or other public resort.

This proposition was submitted to the voters under the referendum system by an act of the Ontario legislature. But the opponents of the liquor traffic were seriously and, as the results show, ruinously handicapped by the terms of the referendum, which provided, among other things, that a number of votes equal to one-half the number cast in the general election of 1898 should be recorded in favor of prohibition to make that policy effective. In other words, the result was determined not by the number voting at this year's election, but by the number who voted at a general election four years ago. The burden of getting out the vote was thrown on the Prohibitionists. All those who favored the liquor traffic needed to do was to remain away from the polls themselves and persuade others to stay at home on election day.

Reports concerning the result of Thursday's election, so far as the number of votes cast is concerned, differ; but there is no question as to the general result. Prohibition was beaten by a majority of considerable magnitude. This will be regarded as a signal victory for the anti-Prohibition interests, as Prohibition won by large majorities in 1894 and 1898.

The strength of the Prohibition vote in the cities, however, will be something of a surprise to students of the matter on this side of the lake. It is usually held in the United States that the liquor sentiment is stronger in the large cities than in the country. But the Ontario vote shows to the contrary. Out of 15 cities only four gave majorities against prohibition. In Toronto there was a majority in its favor of 1,299. But Kingston, St. Catherines, Ottawa and London gave majorities against prohibition.

Georgia's Pension Troubles.

The State of Georgia just now is furnishing a good illustration of conditions likely to grow out of an abuse of the pension system. The annual expenditure of the state for the benefit of Confederate veterans has reached the sum of $860,000, an amount so large that it will probably make a deficit of about $300,000 in the state's finances. It is conservatively estimated that the Georgia pension rolls are one-third larger than strict requirements of the law warrant.

To remedy the evil the Atlanta Constitution says that the legislature must do one of four things—cut down the pensions, starve the state institutions, largely raise the rate of taxation, or withhold payment of the salaries earned by teachers of the state. Clearly the state institutions or public education should not suffer. This leaves two remedies. Which of these are the people likely to prefer, higher taxation or reduction of pensions? The leading newspapers of the state favor a prompt revision of the pension lists. And they undoubtedly reflect public sentiment and opinion. Georgia has at last realized that pensions should be placed invariably on an indigent basis, that only those actually in need and unquestionably deserving should profit through this public bounty.

An Elastic Currency.

As might be expected, the Comptroller of the Currency devotes part of his report to the subject of supplying needed elasticity. He suggests that, in addition to the amount of notes they are now allowed to issue by law on bonds deposited in the Treasury, the national banks were allowed to issue an additional amount of uncovered notes, beginning with 20 per cent., and gradually increasing to 50 per cent., the circulation would be made more expansible. A graduated tax on the amount issued, joined with ample provisions for their redemption and return to the issuing bank, would result in the necessary contraction when the currency became redundant, and, finally, the safety of the notes could be made absolute by a reserve fund raised by a very small tax. The present capital of all the national banks would permit the issue of about $140,000,000 of uncovered notes for the first issue of 20 per cent., and the ultimate issue of $350,000,000, if the amount should be increased to 50 per cent. These maximum figures, moreover, would probably be increased by the gain in the number of national banks. The plan suggested by the Comptroller is not offered as anything new. Its main features have been before the public for some time. It is urged, however, as a practical and simple method for modifying the banking law without radically changing it or sacrificing its main characteristics. It or some similar plan should at least be made the basis of discussion by Congress at the coming session.

A Cattle Epidemic.

The discovery of the existence of foot and mouth disease among cattle in New England has led to quarantining by state and local authorities, and to the issue by the British and Canadian governments of orders against the importation of animals from the ports of the six New England states. The Department of Agriculture has already taken steps to prevent the spread of the disease to other states. Thus far no cases appear to have been discovered in other sections. It may be found necessary to kill many if not all of the quarantined cattle, but compensation will be paid to owners whose cattle are slaughtered by order of the federal officials. There will, naturally, be considerable derangement in cattle shipments for a time, particularly at Boston and Portland, but the disease seems to be localized, and, with the energetic measures taken by the authorities, it should not be long before the distemper is stamped out.

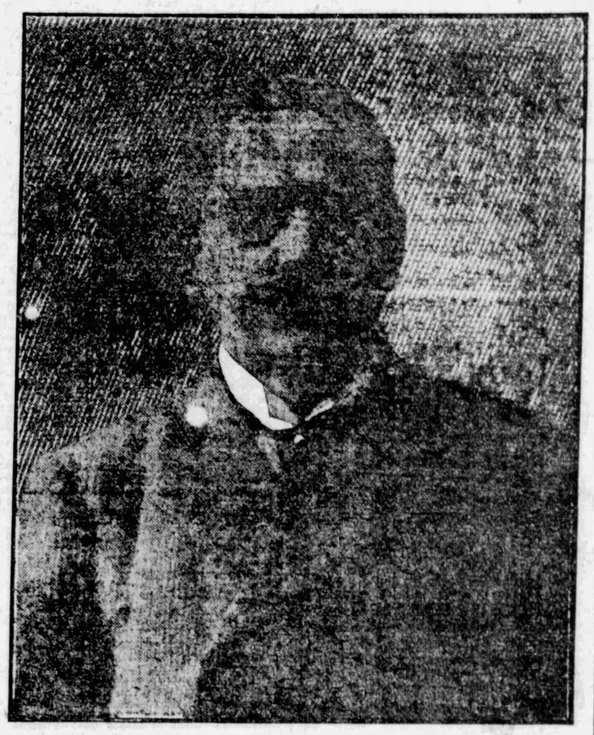
Money in Circulation.

Money in circulation showed an increase of over $102,450,000 for the twelve months ending with November, nearly $16,000,000 of the increase being credited to the latter month. There was a slight decrease in gold coin, but increases in all the other items, with the exception of Treasury notes of 1890. The largest item of increase was one of over $63,600,000 in gold certificates. The total amount of money in circulation on December 1 was $2,852,710,158. This, on the basis of a population estimated at 79,868,000 on that date, represents a per capita circulation amounting to $29.52, an increase of 79 cents as compared with the corresponding date of last year. If we extend the comparisons a little farther back, we get some striking figures of increase. For example, the gain since 1892 has amounted to over $737,000,000, while the increase since 1879, the year of specie payment resumption, has been over $1,420,000,000.

The German Budget.

The only difference between the main problems that the German and the American Treasury officials have to wrestle with is that Baron von Thielmann has to deal with a deficit, and Secretary Shaw a surplus, of $40,000,000, more or less. Last year the deficit reported in the imperial budget was $15,000,000. The Minister hints that imperial taxes may have to be levied on beer and tobacco. Beer has been reserved for state taxation heretofore and the customs duties on tobacco are low—one-third of the American duties. It is remarkable that in the face of growing deficits the Minister intimated that the government was contemplating a policy of pensioning widows and orphans, a measure that would require at least $40,000,000 more annual revenue. This is one of the planks in the Socialist platform and is clearly meant as a concession to that party's demands.

RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR'S DAUGHTER TO BE WEDDED



Washington, Dec. 8.—Count Cassini, Russian ambassador to the United States, is the most interesting figure in the legations just now for various reasons. The marriage of his daughter to Alexander Pavlow, Russian minister to Korea, announced to take place in Washington next month, will help sustain that interest.

This gown of elephant gray cloth, trimmed with dark gray velvet and with crocheted ornaments of red and gray, was worn at an afternoon by one of Toledo's fashionable women.

A CURIOUS DISPUTE.

The precise moment of King Edward's birth, on November 9, 1841, gave rise to a curious controversy at the time. It was, or was believed to be, the custom, when a royal child was born, for the officer on guard at St. James' Palace to be given his majority in honor of the event. As the guard was changed at 10:45 o'clock that morning, and the little prince was born at 10:48 o'clock, there was a dispute as to whether the officer of the relieving guard or the officer of the guard relieved should receive the promotion. The former claimed that his men had marched in, and that he had actually received the keys before 10:48 o'clock, while the latter contended that the sentries had not been changed nor the keys delivered till after the magic moment. The dispute duly came before Lord Hill to be decided when he had a second to spare from the more momentous questions of trimmings and buttons, which even in those days worried the war office.—London Tatler.

Current Events.

Senate committee on territories agrees to report bill admitting Oklahoma to statehood, omitting reference to Arizona and Indian territory.

House passes bill appropriating $50,000 for expenses of coal strike commission.

Secretary Shaw, in his annual report, favors legislation to make silver redeemable in gold on demand.

Traffic agreement recently entered into by Union Pacific and St. Paul roads in danger of abrogation because of dispute regarding character of train service. War between Rockefeller and Harriman interests may result.

Judge Ryan at St. Louis orders acquittal of Henry Nicolaus, accused of bribery in connection with passage of suburban bill by city council, sustaining contention of defense that state failed to prove its case.

Railroad employes' federation to include all brotherhoods probably will be formed at St. Louis, January 5, according to union representatives in Chicago; 150,000 men would be included.

Report of board to select place for naval station on great lakes contains no recommendation as to site, but selection of Waukegan is likely.

Twelve workmen killed and over 40 hurt at San Francisco by oil tank explosion on steamer Progreso; burning oil scattered over water and wharf destroyed.

Captain G. W. Streeter convicted of manslaughter in killing of Watchman John S. Kirk, February 11, in "District of Lake Michigan;" William McManners and Henry Hoeldtke, codefendants, also declared guilty.

Senator Quay accused of stock jobbing in trying to force admission of New Mexico and Arizona to statehood; brother of Senator Penrose and Pittsburg capitalists interested in corporations there which would be benefited; letter from Quay discovered urging Democrats to carry territorial election.

Secretary of Treasury Shaw, in annual report, recommends issue of national bank circulation based on general credits, protected by tax; branch system declared unsuited to America; provision urged for exchange of gold and silver coin by treasury at par.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, in annual report, declared remedies for pear blight and bitter rot in apples have been found; experiments with tea prove crop will succeed in America; macaroni wheat also grown successfully.

United States navy began war game in Caribbean sea on December 4; Rear Admiral Sumner's fleet sailed from Trinidad, to offset landing on American West Indian possessions; Admiral Higginson's fleet on guard.

New York financial interests declare anti-trust law amendments framed by Senator Cullom cannot be enforced if adopted; impossibility of proving intent to monopolize or raise prices is a barrier.

Forty Southern Illinois bucket shops enjoined by Judge Humphrey from receiving or distributing Chicago Board of Trade quotations and ordered to plead by January 1.

Sheriff John S. Dudley, Sullivan county, Ind., issued statement denying he took negro who was lynched from Illinois, without requisition; two Indian citizens declared to have heard negro give consent.

St. Louis police investigating peculiar death of stepfather, two brothers-in-law, brother, sister and sister-in-law of Mrs. Louis Fischer, saloonkeeper's wife, all but one insured.

Fourteen regiments serving in Philippines to exchange places with same number of troops now in United States; field artillery at Fort Sheridan included in the list.

Weekly trade reviews report revival of retail business due to seasonably cold weather. Coke shortage still unrelieved.

Government officials greatly surprised at the sudden turn in Cuban affairs, which presages the rejection of a reciprocity treaty.

Bill introduced in the House forbids newspapers to give any details in cases of suicide.

President decides to appoint Albert B. Anderson of Crawfordsville, Ind., United States district judge to succeed Judge Baker, who recently resigned.

Subcommittee reports favorably upon Representative Littlefield's bill to regulate trusts by publicity.

Students of Princeton University form bucket brigade and subdue fire which threatened destruction of Dickinson hall.

Chairman and treasurer of the Democratic state central committee of Wisconsin refuses to file statement of recent campaign expenses and are ready to fight suit.

Charles Denny, former member of St. Louis house of delegates, is convicted of perjury in connection with boodle cases.

Nebraska cattle men admit they are using government lands illegally, but contend that the laws, having been a dead letter for 15 years, should either remain so or be changed.

Live stock exposition at Chicago was a record breaker, having had a total attendance of 350,000.

Secretary Moody plans athletic competitions for enlisted men in navy.

Conferences being held on anti-trust measures by house committee.

Dr. William W. Keen, Philadelphia surgeon, addressed letter to Senator Gallinger, anti-vivisectionist leader, declaring he saved Annapolis midshipman's life by removing clot from brain, after football accident, through knowledge gained by vivisection.

Schooner Winchester reached Gloucester, Mass., in charge of relief crew after captain and five men prevented vessel from sinking in gale by being lashed to pumps; had worked 24 hours without food and water.

Insurance company to encourage babies formed at Boston; married women will receive from $300 to $500 at birth of child if 86 membership fee and $1 dues every three months are paid; length of membership will determine amount of reward.

President arranging his plans to attend the dedication of the Louisiana Purchase exposition and make an extended tour of the west and northwest.

Naval game between fleets of the United States navy now in progress off Culebra island.

Lyman E. Cooley, in lecture on Chicago's drainage canal, declared water where fish live is not dangerous to health; Illinois fish crop last year worth $750,000.

Five hundred and fifty Scandinavians from western states left Chicago for holiday visit to Norway and Sweden, 1,000 others to join them in New York.

Nebraska cattlemen who have illegally fenced land declare they will not consider the removal of them until they are officially notified by the government.

Unprecedented demand for holiday greens in Chicago and the west. Most of business handled in Chicago.

FOREIGN.

British education bill passed by House of Commons, 238 to 132, and sent to House of Lords; final debate performances press disappointed over President Roosevelt's tariff recommendations.

Prime Minister Sagasta, Spain, resigned; opposition accused of treating him with discourtesy.

Great Britain and Germany order ships to Caribbean sea for joint, punitive expedition against Venezuela to enforce payment of claims. Possibility of complications causes concern in Washington.

Depty Fournier introduces bill in the French chamber for the abolition of titles of nobility.

Prince Henry von Pless, who married Miss Daisy Cornwallis-West, may succeed Baron von Heldeen as German ambassador to the United States.

Roumanian Bulletin, London, discloses that Secretary Hay protested against Jewish persecutions to Roumania before appealing to powers on ground that Jews flee to America and become objects of charity.

Shamrock III., new Lipton yacht narrowly escaped destruction in fire which damaged Denny shipyards at Dumbarton $100,000.

School question in Manitoba likely to become active issue owing to agitation by Catholics for recognition of their schools.

United States Ambassador Porter and Sir Edmund Monson, British ambassador, appealed to French government against expulsion of Passionist fathers; consequence of their church for Americans basis of former's action.

M. Syveton, French deputy, expelled from parliament by 493 to 1 vote; to fight duel with Marc Louis Valles, minister of justice; duel; latter called Syveton a "wretch"; Syveton gave Valles the lie.

Grip in England unusually severe and most of those able to leave are seeking elsewhere, 500,000 working men idle, many being dismissed from government factories.

Fight in French chamber of deputies during discussion of Humbert case. Premier Combes dragged from tribune and roughly handled. Sitting suspended.

Roman politicans greatly worried by agitation over proposed divorce law which is opposed by Vatican.

Est. 1752.

When you take a Pill, take a Brandreth Pill

Purely Vegetable.
Always Effective.

Cures Chronic Constipation.

Draw the picture up close before your eyes and watch the pill go into the mouth.

BRANDRETH'S PILLS purify the blood, invigorate the digestion and cleanse the stomach and bowels. They stimulate the liver and carry off vitiated bile and other depraved secretions. They are a tonic medicine that regulate, purify and fortify the whole system.

Constipation, Dizziness, Drowsiness, Coated Tongue, Bad Breath, Headache, Pain in Stomach, Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Liver Complaint, Bilious Headache, Jaundice or disorder arising from impure state of the blood.

FOR SALE BY DRUGGISTS. 40 PILLS IN EVERY BOX. B. Brandreth

You should select your

Christmas Gifts

from the

Blade Premium List.

It is full of useful things for every one. Send for it.

The Blade, Toledo, Ohio

Dinner Sets

65-Piece Sets,
100-Piece Sets,
112-Piece Sets.

Full description given in the Blade Premium List—send for it at once.

The Blade, Toledo, Ohio.

Publishers' Column

Nasby's Letters:

Your Last Opportunity to Obtain a Copy of the Famous Nasby Letters.

We have on hand about 200 copies of The Nasby Letters which we desire to dispose of before moving into our new building.

If you want a copy of this book, order at once, as it will be impossible to obtain one at any price after the few we have are sold ont. Price, postpaid by mail, 25c. Order at once.

The Blade, Toledo, Ohio.

Our Presidents

From Washington to Roosevelt.

A photogravure production of C. Senf's famous painting. This noted painting, which is attracting the attention of the art world, has been reproduced in photogravure in all its splendor, richness, soft blending of shades and tones until each President appears before us as in real life. You can see face to face every President of the nation. This work is richer than half-tone, softer than steel engraving, far more expensive to produce than either. The picture is 18x24 inches, and has never before sold for less than $1.00. Our price to Blade readers is 45c, or with the Weekly Blade one year, 65c.

THE BLADE,
Toledo, Ohio.

Waltham and Elgin Watches.

We now make the most remarkable offers in the history of the watch business—WALTHAM and ELGIN watches only, regular 18 size, and 6 size, in cases of the highest grade. Our gold cases are made of solid gold in two thick plates, reinforced with a sheet of fine composition metal. If properly used the 25-year cases will last a lifetime. Every watch contains Breguet hairspring, quick train, compensation balance safety pinion, stem winding and setting apparatus of the latest design, and all the greatest improvements known to modern expert watchmakers. WALTHAM and ELGIN watches don't wear out. They are all good. Of course, full (15) jeweled works in 25-year cases are better than 7 jeweled works in 20-year cases, but all are fully guaranteed. Why not have correct time? You can have it if you are fortunate enough to get one of our watches. These offers are not for the general public, but any subscriber may buy all he wishes at these prices, which are far lower than dealers' prices for watches not so good. Our men's watches are suitable for boys and our ladies' watches for girls.

MEN'S GOLD WATCHES.

Our prices include free delivery, in good running order.

No. 71	7-jeweled works, hunting case	25-year	$14.30
No. 72	7-jeweled works, open-face case	25-year	11.65
No. 73	15-jeweled works, hunting case	25-year	15.90
No. 74	15-jeweled works, open-face case	25-year	13.25
No. 75	7-jeweled works, hunting case	20-year	12.20
No. 76	7-jeweled works, open-face case	20-year	9.75
No. 77	15-jeweled works, hunting case	20-year	13.75
No. 78	15-jeweled works, open-face case	20-year	11.30

MEN'S NICKEL SILVER WATCHES.

No. 79	7-jeweled works, nickel silver, open-face case		5.60
No. 80	15-jeweled works, nickel silver, open-face case		7.20

LADIES' GOLD WATCHES.

No. 81	7-jeweled works, hunting case	25-year	12.15
No. 82	15-jeweled works, hunting case	25-year	14.00
No. 83	7-jeweled works, hunting case	20-year	11.35
No. 84	15-jeweled works, hunting case	20-year	13.20

Remember our goods are just exactly as represented, and if you do not find them to be so, we will refund your money.

Address THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

SILVER-PLATED TABLEWARE

We offer our readers, this season, the Rogers Bros.' very handsome Carlton pattern of spoons. These goods are plated with pure silver on nickel silver base, and are fully guaranteed by the manufacturers.

The knives are first coated with copper, then heavily plated with nickel and afterwards with silver. The nickel plate not only doubles the durability of the goods, but, being nearly impervious to moisture, renders knives so plated less liable to rust than those plated in the ordinary way. Prices:

½ doz. Teaspoons	85c
½ doz. Dessert Spoons	$1.50
½ doz. Table Spoons	1.60
½ doz. Knives and Forks	3.75

All goods are sent by open mail or express, all charges prepaid by us. If you desire package registered, send 8c extra. A charge of 2c per letter is made for engraving.

Address all orders to
THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

Cut Paper Patterns.

READ THE OFFER:

These patterns will be mailed to any address for only 10 cents each. In ordering, address "Pattern Department, Blade, Toledo, Ohio," enclose 10 cents silver for each pattern wanted (do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds). State both title and number of pattern.

Full description and directions—as the number of yards and material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit each pattern, with a picture of the garment to go by

2421 Burton Coat.

Sizes 6, 8 and 10 years.

This stylish Empire coat is one of the most popular models of children's garments that are being shown this fall. The box plaits in front and back may be stitched or left plain as preferred. Wide flare cuffs give a pleasing finish to the bishop sleeve and the deep collar serves as extra protection about the shoulders. The front of the coat is closed invisibly with hooks and eyes. A modish coat may be made of nut brown Venetian cloth,

trimmed with self bands heavily stitched in white silk. Three yards of goods, 48 inches wide will be required to make this garment in the 6 and 8-year sizes. Three and one-fourth yards will be required for the 10-year sizes.

2419 Ada Dressing Sacque

Sizes 12, 14 and 16 years.

For real comfort as well as style, this dainty dressing sacque will be found most satisfactory to all young girls. It may be made plain or as fancy as desired. The back is adjusted by slight gathers at the waist-line and an under-arm gore. The

loose fronts may be confined by a ribbon belt if so desired. A pretty sacque is made of rose-striped flannel with a plain white collar and sleeve finished with frills of cream lace. Feather stitching in rose silk and black satin bows complete the decoration. Cashmere or cotton fabrics are also advised. Three and one-fourth yards of material will be required to make this garment for sizes 12 and 14 years. The 16-year size will require three and one-half yards with three-eighths yard of plain goods for collar, and three and one-half yards of lace to trim as illustrated.

DO NOT FAIL to give the Number of pattern and Measurements it will save trouble and delay

Address with remittance in current funds

A WASHINGTON LETTER.

Boston, Dec. 6.—A letter of George Washington, written October 29, 1785, to his friend Patrick Henry, governor of Virginia, was sold at a collector's sale by auction yesterday for $580, to a New York man acting as agent. The letter is given in full in Sparks' Life of Washington, and is of same length. Its subject matter relates to a grant of money by the Virginia legislature to Washington in reward for his services in the revolution and his refusal of the same.

New Life to Weak Men

Old Men Made Young Again—Weak Men Find Old Time Strength and Power of Youth.

TRIAL PACKAGE MAILED FREE.

To the men who have tried every known remedy to revive their waning power or lost manhood, and have given up in despair, the following message comes as a

Chief of Staff, State Medical Institute.

most blessed promise. This new discovery restores all men who suffer with any form of sexual weakness, resulting from youthful folly, premature loss of strength and memory, weak back, varicocele or emaciation of parts. It gives the warmth, strength and development just where it is needed and cures all the ills and troubles that come of years of misuse of the functions, for it has been an absolute success in all cases. A simple request to the State Medical Institute, 39 Main Building, Ft. Wayne, Ind., will bring you one of these free trial packages, in a plain wrapper, without any marks to identify its contents or where it comes from. The Institute has had so many inquiries from men who are unable to leave home on their business to be treated, that it has perfected this splendid home treatment and sends it in free trial packages to all parts of the world to show just how easy and simple it is to be cured at home of any sexual weakness when this marvelous new sexual discovery is employed. The Institute makes no restrictions and any man who writes will receive by mail a free trial of this wonderful remedy absolutely free. Those who write need have no fear of any publicity, as the State Medical Institute is an old established institution, incorporated by the State for 50 years.

TOM REED DEAD.

Hous Paid Notable Tribute to Its Former Great Speaker.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The house today paid a remarkable tribute to the memory of ex-Speaker Thomas B. Reed. His death had created a profound impression and there was a universal desire among the members that the house show a signal mark of respect to his memory. For the house to take action on the death of a former member had only three precedents in its history, namely, on the occasions of the deaths of Benton, Blaine and Alexander Stephens, when the house adopted resolutions and adjourned out of respect to their memories. It was decided to follow these precedents in the case of Mr. Reed. The chaplain at the opening of the session paid a feeling reference to the death of the ex-speaker. No business was transacted beyond the formal reading of two messages from the President and an arrangement to postpone the special order for today—the London dock charge bill, until tomorrow.

HON. THOMAS B. REED.

Mr. Sherman (N. Y.) then, amid profound silence, arose and in a few feeling remarks offered the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the following minute be spread upon the record of the house of representatives:

"Hon. Thomas Brackett Reed died in Washington D. C., Dec. 7, 1902. For twenty-two years he had been a member of this house; for six years its speaker. His service terminated with the fifty-fifth congress. Within this chamber, the scenes of his life's great activities were laid. Here he rendered services to his country which placed him in the front rank of American statesmanship. Here he exhibited characteristics which compelled respect and won admiration. Forceful ability, intrinsic worth, strength of character, brought him fame and congressional leadership. In him depth and breadth of intellect with a full and well rounded development had produced a giant who towered above his fellows and impressed them with his power and his wisdom.

"A distinguished statesman; a lofty patriot; a cultured scholar; an incisive writer; a unique orator, an unmatched debater, a master of logic, wit, satire; the most famous of the world's parliamentarians; the great and representative citizen of the American Republic, has gone into history.

"Resolved, That in honor of the distinguished dead, the house now adjourn."

When the reading of the resolutions had been concluded Speaker Henderson asked if there was objection to their present consideration. The silence remained unbroken. The resolutions were then unanimously adopted and accordingly at 12:15 the speaker declared the house adjourned out of respect to the memory of Mr. Reed.

Boston, Dec. 8.—The body of former Speaker Thomas B. Reed passed through this city today on its way to Portland, Maine. Two cars in one of which the body rested while in the other Mrs. Reed, the wife, and friends comprised a funeral section of the Federal express. The train reached here at 8:38 a. m., more than an hour and a half late. It was at once sent on to Portland, where it is due to arrive at 11 a. m.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The remains of Hon. Thomas Brackett Reed, formerly speaker of the house of representatives, who died Saturday night, left here yesterday afternoon for Portland, Me., his former home, where the interment will take place on Tuesday afternoon. They were placed aboard a special train leaving Washington at 4:50 o'clock and running as the second section of the Federal express, scheduled to arrive at Portland today. Accompanying the body were Mrs. Reed, the widow, Miss Catherine Reed, the former speaker's daughter; Hon. Amos L. Allen, Mr. Reed's successor in the house of representatives; Mr. Asher C. Hinds, Mr. Reed's parliamentary clerk while speaker, and Mr. Augustus G. Payne, of New York, a life-long friend. At Mrs. Reed's request there were no ceremonies of any kind here and at Portland they will be of a simple character.

It is not generally known that the body of Mr. Reed would be taken from the city yesterday and President Roosevelt had invited Mrs. Reed and her daughter to be his guests at the White House pending its removal, which invitation under the circumstances they were compelled to decline.

The casket remained at the hotel until about 4:08 o'clock in the afternoon when it was brought down stairs and lifted into the hearse, the undertaker's assistants and the employes of the hotel acting as body bearers. Then, without ceremony or display of any kind, it was removed to the railroad station. On the casket rested two floral offerings, one of them from the widow and the other, enclosed in a long pasteboard box, from Mrs. Roosevelt.

Thomas Brackett Reed, statesman, politician and lawyer, the man whose master will was felt by all who came in contact with him, was born in Portland, Me., October 18, 1839. Serving his country and his state in various capacities, he has been constantly in the public eye since 1861. As a member of congress and as the leader of the Republican party in that body, the Maine statesman became world famous. He was a hard taskmaster, and ruled the Republican members with an iron hand. As speaker he was termed "czar of the house" and as "Czar" Reed he will ever be remembered. His congressional career was long and distinguished. As an orator he was peerless; as a debater the sting of his words was feared by all; as speaker of the house he would stand no dictation. His was the creative mind and he knew no master.

He received his education in Bowdin college, Maine. Having mastered the teachings of Blackstone in 1864, he was appointed an acting assistant paymaster in the army. He served in this capacity until the end of the civil war, and then began the practice of law, launching immediately into political life. He served his state in 1868 as a member of its house of representatives, and the following year went to the senate. He was attorney general of the state from 1870 to 1879, and city solicitor of the city of Portland from 1874 till 1877.

He then went to congress where he served eleven terms, twenty-two years in all, six of them as speaker. Although reelected to succeed himself as a member of congress, and assured of the retention of the speakership of the house, he retired from political life in 1899. He had accumulated no wealth, and he determined to devote himself somewhat to its pursuit.

Mr. Reed had served his country and served it well. He now determined to serve himself. He re-entered the practice of law with headquarters at New York city and this practice has been both successful and lucrative. Mr. Reed's rulings as presiding officer of the house, have been preserved in book form as Reed's rules. He was a frequent contributor to periodical literature and his views were continually sought after regarding public questions of the moment. In Washington during the sessions he always lived at the Shoreham.

Mr. Reed instituted the unique practice of requiring payment from newspapers which desired expression of his views for publication. He did so on the ground that he would not be quoted unless his views were expressed exactly as he held them, and declared that this required as much care as the preparation of a legal opinion, for which, of course, he was always paid. In the last few years he seldom expressed his opinions at length regarding the state of current political affairs, but often gave to his old political associates views which had weight with them in determining party policies.

In stature Reed was a giant, tall, broad shouldered, corpulent, with a round, smooth-shaven face, usually smiling, and his lumbering walk was always a mark of identification. He was a familiar figure in Pennsylvania avenue. While in congress he always walked to and from the capitol, no matter what the weather.

BIG COAL TRUST.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 6.—Recent events have given ground for the belief that the result of the negotiations now in progress will be the ultimate sale of the properties of the individual operators to the large coal carrying companies. This will not be done at once but it is regarded here as certain to come in the not distant future because it is believed to be the only solution of the present situation, and is the outcome which both the independents and the large companies desire. It is estimated that the collieries of the sixty-seven independent operators can be purchased for $145,000,000. These operations produce three-tenths of the total output of coal.

King to Visit Ireland.

London, Dec. 6.—The Lord Mayor of Belfast has announced that the Earl of Dudley had informed him that King Edward would probably pay a visit to Ireland in 1903. The information coming through the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland is regarded as practically an announcement of his majesty's decision.

BORNE TO THE TOMB

Simple Funeral Services Over Body of Thomas B. Reed.

Portland, Me., Dec. 9.—Simple, but impressive ceremonies, consisting of music, scripture reading, prayer, and a brief eulogy were held over the body of former Speaker Thomas Brackett Reed, at the First Parish Unitarian church in this city today. The edifice was thronged with a distinguished assemblage, which included the governors of Main eand Massachusetts, the congressional delegates representing the House and Senate, the Loyal Legion, several Grand Army posts, members of the bar, city officials, and delegates from nearly political organization in the state of Maine.

The day was one of mourning throughout the city. Many places of business were closed during the afternoon. Public buildings were also closed during the day.

The services in the church were held at 2 o'clock, but for some hours the body had been lying in state in the parish house, where it was viewed by throngs of people.

The funeral procession passed to Evergreen cemetery, where the body was placed in a tomb to await burial in the spring.

FOURTEEN DEAD

As the Result of a Small Hotel Fire.

Chicago, Dec. 4.—Fourteen persons met death in a fire in the Lincoln hotel, 176 Madison street,, at 6 o'clock this morning. Nine of the bodies were soon recovered. Little damage was done to the hotel, but the smoke was so dense that the persons who met their death were overcome and died before assistance could reach them. Many jumped from the fourth story windows, others tried to save themselves by climbing down the fire escape back of the building, only to lose their grasp on the cold iron bars and fall to the street.

The persons sleeping in the rear of the building, on the top floors, had no chance for their lives. A narrow stairway leading to all floors of the structure was afire and the escape of the lodgers in the rear of the building was cut off. Firemen and policemen were not reticent in speaking of what they witnessed at the catastrophe. They condemned the building as a "firetrap." Ambulances and patrol wagons from all parts of the city were called to the place and the dead and injured were quickly attended.

All but fourteen of the guests at the hotel were out-of-town persons. Most of them came to Chicago to attend the International Live Stock show. Up to 10 o'clock last night persons were taken in at the hotel, and in every room or place in which a cot could be erected, it is said, guests were accommodated. At that time a large number of stockmen, with their families, were turned away. The hotel was filled.

Shortly after the fire broke out the firemen rushed up the stairway into the place and began the work of rescue. Men, women and children were carried down ladders and fire escapes from smoke-filled halls.

From what could be learned from persons who escaped from the building, it appeared that the fire was accidentally started, probably by dropping a lighted cigar on the carpet in the hallway on the second floor. The smouldering fire filled the building with heavy smoke and the sleeping victims were suffocated.

Fostoria, O., Dec. 9.—The Fostoria Glass Specialty company's plant was destroyed by fire at 4 o'clock this morning, entailing a loss of from forty to fifty thousand dollars. The fire started in a tube alley running a hundred feet to southwest from main part of factory and the flames were swept by a strong wind into the plant. The watchman secured hose and turned water on the flames and then telephoned an alarm. The factory was at the southern city limits and the fire department was compelled to make a second trip to get sufficient hose to reach. Had there been a plug there the greater part of the plant would have been saved.

A large amount of finished glass and material, including $5,000 worth of chemicals, were destroyed while the insurance is about $17,000. The company was organized last summer to make all kinds of glass required in utilizing electricity and is composed of stockholders of the Fostoria Bulb & Bottle Co. and the Fostoria Incandescent Lamp Co. The fires in the furnace are burning and will be kept going to save the pots until a decision is made at the Cleveland headquarters relative to rebuilding. One hundred and twenty-five men were employed.

CUBAN STATESMEN FIGHT

Secretary of the House Beaten by a Representative.

Hanava, Dec. 9.—Senor Perez, secretary of the house of representatives, was attacked in a conference room of the house by Representative Mendieta and twice knocked down before congressmen separated the men. The first named is a Nationalist and Mendieta a Republican. The difficulty grew out of debates in the house. It is asserted that a duel is sure to result.

TROUBLE IN HONDURAS.

Panama, Colombia, Dec. 6.—A revolutionary movement is threatened in Honduras. General Sierra has been induced to refuse to return over the presidential power to Senor Bonilla who was elected president in October. It is believed that the Honduran congress will try to declare the last elections illegal and Senor Bonilla's numerous partisans threaten to protect their leader's rights by force, if necessary.

CAN WRITE THEM.

Calkins, the Story Teller.

Mr. Franklin W. Calkins, of Wyoming, Wis., who writes many interesting stories for the "Youth's Companion" says—

"Food can make or unmake a writer. For a number of years, living the sedentary life of the writer and student, I suffered all the ills of nervous dyspepsia. I could eat nothing in the morning save a dry crust of toasted bread and a cup of weak coffee. For my dinner at 6 o'clock, I had been in the habit of eating rare beefsteak, the only food from which I seemed to get the proper nourishment, but no meal was taken without the after pangs of indigestion; I was beginning to get disgusted with life.

About a year ago a friend suggested Grape-Nuts, telling me of the benefit he had received from the food and I began with it as directed; I found immediate relief from my indigestion and in a short time my dyspepsia left me entirely. I have now used Grape-Nuts for a year and have had no trouble with my stomach having eaten many enjoyable dinners.

I add, in fact that all you say for Grape-Nuts is true and it is certainly the food for brain workers and the truth of your claim is proved in my own cure. I have no appetite for meats."

Something good for Christmas

During the holiday season, when good cheer everywhere prevails, there is nothing nicer to have in the house than a little good whiskey, and besides, your physician will tell you it is excellent in many cases of sickness. But you must have good whiskey, pure whiskey. You don't want to drink poor whiskey yourself, much less offer it to your friends, while as a medicine, poor whiskey, adulterated whiskey, may do you decided harm.

HAYNER WHISKEY goes to you direct from our own distillery, with all its original richness and flavor, and carries a UNITED STATES REGISTERED DISTILLER'S GUARANTEE of PURITY and AGE. When you buy **HAYNER WHISKEY** you save the enormous profits of the dealers and have our guarantee that your money will be promptly refunded if you are not satisfied with the whiskey after trying it. That's fair, isn't it?

Direct from our distillery to YOU

Saves dealers' profits. Prevents adulteration.

HAYNER WHISKEY

PURE SEVEN-YEAR-OLD RYE

4 FULL QUARTS $3.20

EXPRESS CHARGES PAID BY US

OUR OFFER We will send you **FOUR FULL QUART BOTTLES of HAYNER'S SEVEN-YEAR-OLD RYE for $3.20,** express charges paid by us. Try it and if you don't find it all right and as good as you ever used or can buy from anybody else at any price, send it back at our expense and the next mail will bring you your $3.20. Could any offer be fairer? This offer is backed by a company with a capital of $500,000.00, paid in full, and the proud reputation of 38 years of continuous success. We have over a quarter of a million satisfied customers, proving conclusively that our whiskey is all right and that we do exactly as we say. We ship in a plain sealed case; no marks to show what's inside. If you don't want 4 quarts yourself, get a friend to join you.

Orders for Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington or Wyoming, must be on the basis of **4 Quarts** for **$3.60** by **Express Prepaid**, or **20 Quarts** for **$16.00** by **Freight Prepaid.**

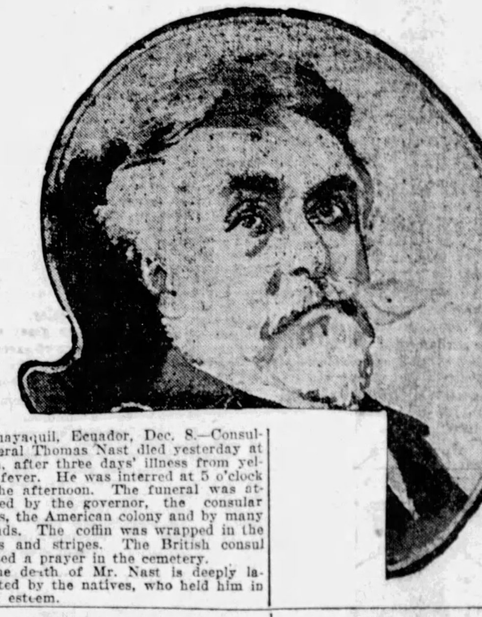
FREE With each four quart order we will send free one gold-tipped whiskey glass and one corkscrew. If you wish to send an order to a friend, as a Christmas present, we will enclose with the shipment an elegant souvenir card, with both your names neatly printed thereon.

Write our nearest office and do it NOW.

ESTABLISHED 1866 — **THE HAYNER DISTILLING COMPANY** — DISTILLERY TROY, O.

78 DAYTON, OHIO — ST. LOUIS, MO. — ST. PAUL, MINN.

THOMAS NAST DEAD.



Guayaquil, Ecuador, Dec. 8.—Consul-General Thomas Nast died yesterday at noon, after three days' illness from yellow fever. He was interred at 5 o'clock in the afternoon. The funeral was attended by the governor, the consular corps, the American colony and by many friends. The coffin was wrapped in the stars and stripes. The British consul recited a prayer in the cemetery.

The death of Mr. Nast is deeply lamented by the natives, who held him in high esteem.

WORK OF CONGRESS.

December 5.—Senate not in session. The House devoted the day to bills on the private calendar. The most important bill passed was one to adjudicate in the court of claims the claims of certain importers of steel blooms, who between 1879 and 1891 paid customs duties equivalent to 45 per cent ad valorem, when, it is claimed, the correct rate should have been 30 per cent. About $350,000 is involved. A bill to pay Smithmeyer and Pelz, architects of the congressional library, $50,000 additional compensation, was defeated. A bill was passed authorizing the following persons to accept presents and decorations from foreign governments: Captain B. H. Mc-Calla, U. S. N.; Drs. Eugene Wasdin and H. D. Geddings, U. S. M. H. S.; Henry F. Alford, W. A. Taylor, H. W. Wiley, M. A. Carleton and John I. Shults of the department of agriculture; John A. Okerman of the Mississippi river commission. Casper S. Crowninshield, United States commercial agent; Miss Anna Tolman Smith and Lieutenant Colonel F. H. Phipps.

December 6.—Senate not in session. Immediately after the reading of the journal the House entered upon the consideration of the pension appropriation bill. Mr. Barney, in charge of the measure, explained that the appropriations it carried, aggregating $139,647,000, were practically identical with those for the current year, and that it contained no new legislation. The bill then was passed without a word of comment. Mr. Olmsted (Pa.) presented the report on the Wagner-Butler contested election case from the twelfth Missouri district, and gave notice that he would call it up next Wednesday. The House then proceeded with the call of committees. Bills were passed to readjust the time for holding court in the western judicial district of Texas; to confer jurisdiction upon the circuit court and district courts of South Dakota in certain Indian cases; to create a new division of the western judicial district of Missouri; to incorporate the Society of Military Surgeons; to increase the maximum period in which live stock can be confined in cars without unloading from twenty-eight to forty hours; to authorize the federal railroad company to construct a bridge across the Missouri river at Cacoma, Lyman county, S. D.; to construct a bridge across the Missouri river at a point five miles north of the Kaw river, Kansas; to grant right of way for telegraph and telephone lines in Alaska, to empower Minnesota to file its selections for school lands immediately upon survey and prior to approval and filing plats; to increase the size of homesteads in Alaska from 80 to 320 acres; to construct a steam revenue cutter for service in Albermarle and Pimlico Sounds, N. C.; to set aside certain lands in South Dakota as a public park to be known as Wind Cave National Park; for the relief of certain settlers upon Wisconsin Central railroad and the Dalles military road grants; to authorize a bridge across the Savannah river at Sand Hill Ferry below Augusta, Ga.; to incorporate the general educational board; defining what shall constitute and providing for assessments on oil mining claims, and fixing punishment for the larceny of horses, cattle and other livestock in Indian Territory.

December 8.—The Senate adopted all the committee amendments to the immigration bill, with the exception of one prescribing an educational test and also the section providing expressly for striking out section 36, prohibiting the sale of intoxicants within the capitol building, and then laid aside the bill until tomorrow, and passed three unobjected pension bills. The amendment fixing a $2 head tax on each immigrant coming into the United States furnished the principal topic for debate. Mr. Gallinger insisted that there was less necessity for it now than there was a year ago, but it was adopted without division. A reported amendment was added designed to stop the alleged perjury on the part of persons seeking admission to the United States and the committee amendment making the head tax a lien on the property of the transportation line bringing immigrants to the United States was stricken out. An amendment also was agreed to exempting from the tax aliens in transit through the United States and aliens once admitted and who have paid. Mr. Quay sent to the desk and had read the resolutions adopted by the Indian Territory executive committee on territorial legislation in opposition to the statehood bill combining Oklahoma and Indian Territory, expressing sympathy for Oklahoma in her efforts to secure statehood appealing for some form of local self-government, such as is provided for in what is known as the Moon bill, and denouncing certain people who, it is charged, have misrepresented the desires of the citizens of Indian Territory with regard to going statehood with Oklahoma.

House—Resolutions in memory of former Speaker Reed were read and the House adjourned as an additional mark of respect. No business was transacted beyond the formal reading of two messages from the President and an arrangement to postpone the special order—the London dock bill.

BUYING OUR CATTLE.

London, Dec. 6.—The last few months have found in the United Kingdom an an unprecedented number of American buyers of thoroughbred cattle, whose purchases of high class breeding stock aggregates many thousands of pounds. A number of the animals bought are intended for exhibition at the St. Louis exposition. The prices paid range from $2,100 to over $6,250 per head. Scores of high-priced bulls and cows have been shipped during the summer and fall. Among the buyers now here are C. E. Marvin, of Lexington, Ky., who will take back 25 thoroughbreds in May and July. J. S. Goodwin, of Chicago, has purchased a number of Angus breeders, and the Armour's agent is sending 100 Herefords to the United States. A number of purchases have also been made of tiny Dexter and Kerry cattle in Ireland, the breeding of which has recently become quite the fashion in England, under the patronage of Lady Lansdowne der the patronage of Lady Lansdown and other titled fanciers.

The ruling of Dr. Salmon, chief of the United States bureau of animal industry, allowing the importation of Jersey and Guernsey cattle into the United States without the tuberculosis test is expected to greatly stimulate purchases in those islands. The agricultural departments' agents during the last ten years have inspected over 20,000 head o fcattle in Jersey and Guernsey and have not found a singel case of tuberculosis. On the other hand, England and Scotland are badly infected, and breeders here, on that account, apprehend the early adoption of more stringent quarantine measures by the United States.

CREAM SEPARATOR FREE

This is a genuine offer made to introduce the **Peoples Cream Separator** in every neighborhood. It is the best and simplest in the world. We ask that you show it to your neighbors who have cows. Send your name and the name of the nearest freight office. Address

PEOPLES SUPPLY CO.,
DEPT. 178. KANSAS CITY, MO.

50,000 WATCHES FREE

Instead of spending a half million dollars every year in newspaper advertising like some medicine companies do, we will send absolutely free, this fine stem-winding guaranteed watch, chain and charm to anyone who will sell only 8 packages of Dr. Wagner's New Discovery for **Stomach** and **Liver trouble.** Please send no money nor stamps, simply your name and address and we will send you the 8 packages to sell at 25 cents each. After you have sold them for us, remit us a money order for $2.00 and we will send you the watch at once, postpaid. This is the best medicine in the world for **Stomach, Liver** and **Kidney** complaints. It is strictly **Vegetable** and a positive cure for **Constipation.** Our letters explain everything. Address THE WAGNER REMEDY CO.
28 Plaisance Court. CHICAGO, ILL.

BIG WAGES TO MEN and WOMEN

Mr. Tassell made $1,500 the first five months. Mr. Wise, of S. D., $12, 1st day. Mr. Clery, of Vt., $9 first day. Mr. Doerge, of Me., $10 one afternoon. Mr. Elliott, of Pa., $17 first two days. Mrs. Howard, of La., $39.50 in one week. Hundreds of others making big money selling and appointing agents for **Quaker Vapor Bath Cabinets.** Prices reduced. Let us start you. We furnish everything. Anyone willing to work can make $20 to $40 a week easy. Greatest money-maker known. Just what everybody needs. Wonderful seller. We're old firm. Capital $100,000.00. **Write for New Plan, Terms, Etc., FREE.** Address, WORLD M'F'G CO., 621 World Bldg., Cincinnati, O.

Raw Furs: I pay highest prices; write for price list. J. Glesel, East Aurora, N. Y.

Ladies: Use our harmless Remedy for delayed or suppressed Menstruation. It cannot fail. Trial free. **Paris Chemical Co.,** Dept. 3, Milwaukee, Wis.

Ladies to do piece work at their homes. We furnish all material and pay from $7 to $12 weekly. Experience unnecessary. Send stamped envelope to **Royal Co.,** Dept. 3, 31 Monroe St., Chicago

$20 A WEEK Straight salary and expenses to men with rig to introduce our Poultry Mixture in country; year's contract; weekly pay. Address, with stamp, **Monarch Mfg. Co., Box 1058, Springfield, Ill.**

THE LITTLE QUEEN,

Wilhelmina of Holland, to Visit the United States.

New York, Dec. 6.—Queen Wilhelmina, of Holland, and the king consort will pay America a visit next spring. The news of this, which the Dutch government is trying to keep secret, was made known in a private letter received in this city from an official at The Hague.

The queen will travel incognito across the United States and though she will call upon President Roosevelt before she leaves the country the visit will be made informally.

Queen Wilhelmina will sail from Genoa to the East Indies in March on a Dutch man-of-war. After paying a visit to the colonies from which her kingdom derives so large an amount of its wealth, the queen and her consort will take ship at Surabaya, the principal seaport of East Java, for San Francisco.

A trip to the Yellowstone valley is included in the plans and Chicago will be visited. A few days will be passed at Niagara Falls and then the queen will come to New York, first visiting Washington for the purpose of paying her respects to President Roosevelt.

THE NILE DAM.

Cairo, Dec. 6.—The governmen has completed all arrangements for the dedication of the dam on the Nile at Assouan, the greatest public work in the history of modern Egypt if the construction of the Suez canal is excepted.

King Edward will be officially represented at the ceremonies by the Duke of Connaught. The Duke and Duchess have arrived in Cairo and along with the Kherive will go by special train tomorrow to Luxor, whence they will take a steamer to Assouan, arriving next Tuesday. The inauguration of the dam takes place next Wednesday. The same day the party, including the guests, will go to Assiout by boat. The following day the supplementary dam as Assiout will be inspected, after which the party will return here.

The ceremony of inauguration will consist of laying the last stone and opening a number of sluices to let the water flow down the river.

France's New Sugar Law.

Paris, Dec. 6.—The chamber of deputies last night adopted by 337 votes to 14, the new sugar law of which the principal provision reduces the tax on refined sugar to 25 francs per 220 pounds as a compensation for the abolition of the sugar bounties under the Brussels convention.

THE HOUSEHOLD AND YOUNGFOLKS.

EMILY S. BOUTON, EDITOR.

Keynotes of Harmony

Wednesday.

If we keep our souls in patience, if we hold fast our faith and hope and love, the soft streams of healing power will flow into us and through us. We shall receive and give out the infinite good.

Thursday.

In general it may be said that cheerful, happy emotions augment constructive, life-producing changes in the body, while sad and unpleasant emotions do just the opposite.

Friday.

There are laws of the inner life as well as the laws of the outward nature, and these Jesus seems always striving to set forth. He saw—what a moment's reflection must make clear to us all—that, as human society is constituted the great natural tie that holds us is the need of each other.

Saturday.

No one can cherish an ideal, and devote himself to its realization from year to year, and strive and struggle and make sacrifices for its attainment, without undergoing a certain gracious transformation of which the highest powers mus be aware and which men can hardly miss.

Sunday.

Do not give away to depression—but resign yourself to our dear Lord, with the object of bearing bravely the discomforts and petty contradictions of this life.

Monday.

Just in proportion to our progress do our ideals become more beautiful and our aspirations more exalted.

Tuesday.

Remember this: The universe is full of truth and goodness as it is of light.

An Interesting Question and An Interesting Book

EMILY S. BOUTON.

Do you believe animals think?

This was the question put to me by one who loves animals, enjoys their companionship, ministers to their wants, pities their sufferings, and relieves their pains.

I do not doubt it, was my reply. How else can you account for their actions in unexpected crises; for their measuring of distances when desire or necessity compels a leap; for their avoidance of dangers; their love of home; their defense of, and devotion to, their masters; and the hundred other things which demand the ability to compare, to decide, to judge, to persist, and often to endure? It is simply impossible to conclude that all these things with which we are so familiar in our pets, our servants, the birds of the air, the creatures of the field and forest, are accidents, or can be disposed of by assigning them wholly to instinct. Confining the meaning of instinct to the definition ordinarily given—that it is what produces in an action a result which is apparently the product of reason and knowledge, but in reality is blind, the animal not connecting the means with the end—and one must go far afield to understand the life of the higher classes of the animals which come within the circle of our observation.

The wonders discoverable in this kingdom which presses so closely upon that of man, bring a vivid realization of the truth of evolution, that all life is moving consciously or unconsciously toward higher conditions, it being the Divine purpose that it shall constantly, even though slowly, progress. All growth, all advancement is made by the broadening of the consciousness, through the influences with which the latter is brought in contact, and its degree is determined by their strength. This is as true of the animal as of the human being, and therefore it is impossible not to believe that some animals think.

Permanent Residents Without the Flocking Habit—Young Screech Owls. From How to Tell the Birds. Copyright, Doubleday, Page & Co.

Meditating on the marvels that observation and study disclose in this living world around us brings to mind that charming new book by Neltje Blanchan, entitled How to Attract Birds, not for the purpose of slaughter, but to know them, to understand their nature, to see how they are moved by the same sentiments as move the human family in regard to the essentials of life. The author shows how they love and how they hate; what practical ideas they have in regard to the homes they build in which to rear their young. "The more the home life of the birds means to them the higher have they ascended in the evolutionary scale," and many of them delight in making beautiful nests in places carefully chosen for comfort and safety. And this careful observer says that the bird's true garb of orange and black. "There is need for the mother oriole to reflect in her feathers the olive green, soft grayish brown and yellow of the leaves, twigs and sunlight she lives among."

Why should we not believe she thinks when choosing the materials for her home?

I was much interested in what the author said of the individuality of birds as revealed in their songs. No two canaries in a shop, for instance, sing precisely alike. The tone may be mellow, a sweet low warble of content, or a sharp, almost vindictive note that denotes a nervous, irritable temperament, or a feeling of anger.

The author believes that the power of song is an evolution from the simple call-note still used by the barnyard fowl and birds of that ilk. "Bird music," it is said, "means vastly more than a crow, gobble, boom or drumming. It indicates the triumph of the higher nature over the lower; it may become the expression of those qualities which we usually associate with soul. 'No original water-haunter or ground-builder ever sang,' says James Newton Baskett, 'Every melody is a march—a command to move onward to the ear that can truly comprehend it.'"

And then we are told that the single inspiration to these higher attainments in melody is love. "For beggar or king the humble little field sparrow makes no variation of its exquisite song. But in the forests they pour out their glorious notes, filling the woodland solitudes with song intended only to delight their mates."

Another thing that is interesting, is this: Birds make an unconscious use of musical intervals and methods that men have formulated into laws, which we are just beginning to realize may be of wide enough application to include the bird music, and strange as it may seem, "foremost critics declare that the opera and oratorio of the future will be sung like bird music, without words."

These are the wonderful, beautiful creatures that are slaughtered each year by the thousands, by men for sport, for the fun of killing, and by men also for women to wear for vanity's satisfaction. Public sentiment, it is true, has been aroused within the last few years, and laws have been passed to protect the winged inhabitants of wood and fields, but still the destruction goes on, even if in a slightly lesser degree, and will do so until the lesson is learned that nothing, save necessity, can make the taking of life a right thing. When the day comes that sport and vanity do not demand such victims, then this condition will be a real one:

"No longer now the winged habitants
That in the woods their sweet lives sing away,
Flee from the form of man; but gather round
And preen their sunny feathers on the hands
Which little children stretch in friendly sport
Toward dreadless partners of their play.
And science dawn, though late, upon the earth."

The Cozy Corner

Through a mistake, the wrong name was signed last week to the first half of the interesting article, Ninety-Five Years Ago. It should have been Eliza M. Mixer, Plainview.

What Is True Charity?

I was very much interested in the letter on the so-called charitable work of that newspaper firm, and in my opinion, such giving produces more harm than good. As soon as we give to a needy person without insisting upon a return commensurate with that person's ability, we have taken the first steps toward lowering his self-respect and making of him a pauper.

In providing for the sick, and for those who, having tried, are unable to obtain work, is, of course, different but even then it should be understood by both parties that the help is but temporary, and to be paid for in some way, at some time, either to the donor or by passing it on to some other who may need it.

Possibly I may not make my meaning clear—I believe most truly that we, to whom much has been given, should freely and gladly share with our less fortunate brothers, but instead of giving of our means, we should do more good by giving of our time, to help the needy person to find employment that will enable him to help himself, and not force him to "stand in a line" and have bread and soup doled out to him daily.

Another phase of the meaning of true charity came to my knowledge recently, of which I am going to ask the opinion of the Cozy Cornerites: At a "thimble party," where a number of ladies were working for a church bazaar, one of the members mentioned the case of a poor woman, who, having lost much of her accustomed work, and having sickness in her family, had been reduced to asking charity.

One of the ladies present immediately offered five dollars for her relief, saying that she had done her own sewing that fall in order that she might have money for charitable purposes. Several others had done the same thing it appeared, and a goodly sum was made up to help this "worthy poor woman." Some one asked her name, and when it was mentioned, the silence that fell over that group of workers could be almost seen as well as felt, for they one and all recognized her as the seamstress who had been discharged by them in order that they might save money for charitable purposes, and they felt that instead of allowing her to earn the money, and thus preserve her self-respect, they had forced her, by their "saving," to beg for that which she would have gladly earned.

Who will tell me where the charity or good sense came in in this case?—Mrs. H. H. D.

How Work as a Science.

I was much interested in a recent article in our column in regard to the various ways in which earnest women have earned a living for their families, and am rejoiced that there are so many avenues of help opened to those who are obliged to do outside work.

At the same time I read, in another paper, a screed on the never ending subject of help in the kitchen, and how, for reason of its inefficiency, many women are in despair and are puzzling their brains to find a way out of the universal trouble.

It seems to me that there is a very plain way, if we would only look upon housekeeping and housework as being of as much importance as other pursuits which employ women. It is surely as much of an art to direct the affairs of a home so as to prevent friction in its various departments, as it is to teach school, to clerk in a store or an office, to operate a typewriter, or even to practice medicine or law, and quite as honorable.

For a woman to make herself the power in bringing into harmonious working all of the diversified elements and forces in a family, to bring orderly and intelligent service into the domestic affairs, to preserve discipline and gain willing service from the servants she employs, requires as much brain power as to accomplish any other task in the world. When our "brainy" women will give their attention in a practical manner to this endeavor, the problem of "help," which has, and which continues to demoralize the home-life of many families, will be settled forever.

Women may write and talk most learnedly, but it is only a practical illustration of ways and methods that will convince the average housemaid. A week of instruction to a green—or obstinate—maid, by a mistress who knows from experience, and not theory, how work should be done, how it can be done so as to save time for the worker without loss or detriment to the work, and who is willing that the time so saved shall belong to the maid, for rest or recreation, as an appreciation of her efforts at improvement—such instruction will be of more avail than volumes of beautifully expressed theories. In truth, the "help" either cannot, or does not, read these things, and if she did would not understand what they mean.

Cook a potato, make a pudding or wash a dish while your green girl looks on and she will know how you want those things done, and, nine times out of ten, will gladly do as you wish; but call the girl to you and simply tell her to do these things, trusting that "any one" can do them, and you must not be disappointed if her ways are not your ways. Precept and line are very well, but for practical results example must accompany them.

"But," you say, "there are women who are fitted for other and higher work in the world; women who feel that they are called to do other than house work." Very well, if they are "called," let them follow the voice, but the trouble too often is that the "call" is the echo of a selfish desire to shirk something that is not especially pleasant, and this letter is only written for those who do not believe that there is any "higher" work for a woman than to make home the happiest, holiest place on earth for the family she has elected to care for, and for such other women as are earnestly and truly anxious to find a way out of that Slough of Despond—the servant girl question.—Mrs. J. C. Adams, Ohio.

CHRISTMAS DEVICES.

After the gifts have been prepared, the next question is how shall we present them so as to add most to the pleasure of the day. There are those who are so lost to the Christmas traditions as to be willing to have the Yule-tide offerings of their friends, simply deposited on the library table, to be examined at leisure, but the calm, matter-of-fact people are in the minority, and with most of us the chief joy of the day is the pleasure of giving and receiving in company with our dear ones.

The Christmas tree is always welcome; then there is the Santa Claus, coming in person to distribute the gifts from his well filled sack; the Christmas bell and many other delightful ways—not the least delightful being the old, old-fashioned way of hanging up the stockings around the fireplace, or its substitute, the stove.

Here is a novel plan: Procure as many, small, bright, new tin pans as there are persons; fill the pans with sawdust, then place in them the gifts for each one (the owner's name being fastened to each pan). Tie these gifts in compact parcels, leaving a long end of string; these strings are passed through openings in the crust of the pie. This is made of white paper, the edges crimped to fit closely around the edge of the pan ,a little touch of paste holding them firmly. Around the pie place a wreath of fringed and twisted tissue paper, and fasten this, also, with a touch of paste.

To the end of the strings, after they come from the pie, attach a card on which is marked the hour when the present at the other end of the string is to be drawn from the pie. In this way the pleasure of receiving the gifts may be prolonged all day if you choose. Of course, the hours will have to be governed by the number of presents, and the eagerness of the recipients.

In marking the childrens' presents in this way time is given for a thorough enjoyment and examination of each before the attention is distracted by another.

Should there be an invalid in the family—a child for whom the Christmas festivities would be too exciting—he can have much of the Christmas joy brought to his room on the tray on which his meals are served and will enjoy it enough to pay for the extra work it makes.

Take a twig of box, or if this cannot be procured, a branch of evergreen can be trimmed into a pear-shaped tree. Place the end of this in a large, wooden button mold, and you will have a dear little tree on which small gifts and ornaments of tinsel can be placed. At the topmost point fasten a Christmas angel made of paper, or a star made of pasteboard covered with tin foil.

An astonishing effect can be produced from a very prosaic piece of bread and butter, if you will cut a door, some windows and a chimney in it and fasten a jolly little paper Santa Claus to the roof, with one small leg thrown over the top of the chimney as if he were about to descend it. A sprinkling of sugar on the bread and butter house will answer perfectly for the snow that is supposed to be in season when Santa comes.

A pie for the invalid, and one warranted not to produce indigestion, can be made by cutting a slice of bread into rounds—as large as possible—and placing a layer of jelly between two of these rounds; then cut in wedge shaped pieces, and, if you make believe very hard, you can think you have a share of the downstairs pie, and you have this advantage—your pie will not cause bad dreams and you can call it any kind you wish.

Of course, a bit of the plum pudding would not be allowed, so the cook will select the very nicest apple she can find and bake it until the skin is ready to burst with the rich juice. Then stick a piece of holy in the top, prick the side in several places with a fork and after placing it on a pretty dish carry it steaming up to the patient, and it will be a most excellent substitute, both in looks and taste, for the pudding served on the other table.

Toast, cut while hot, with fancy shaped cookey cutters, and served on a pretty plate, tastes much better to a sick child than a whole slice of bread would, and a bit of holly laid beside it will give it a holiday finish.

Christmas eggs for dessert are made by washing the inside of egg shells with cold water and pouring into them blanmange. When this hardens the shells may be broken away and the eggs served as preferred, either with or without sauce.

THE MERRY-GO-ROUNDS

"Mr. Smiley" is practical in his ideas, and thinks the literal truth is better than too much imagination, as this letter will prove:

I was interested in "Queen Saba's" impressions of Dante as he gave them in a recent number of The Blade. I, too, am a great reader, but am fonder of common sense than of such awe-inspiring works as the "Inferno."

It has always been a mystery to me why sensible people will regard as sublime, poetry which, in reality, is simply ridiculous.

For instance: A much-quoted poet describes a pretty girl as having a "throat like a swan." Imagine, if you can, a girl with a spindling neck two feet in length, shaped like the letter S and covered with feathers! Then place on this a "rose bud mouth"—rather a puckery looking mouth, I should think—"diamonds" for eyes and hair of "burnished copper" and you will have an illustration of the poet's idea of feminine beauty.

If some artist would paint a girl's picture, true to this description, how would it compare with that of a girl with the features that God gave her?

I will venture to say that if the above quoted poet should meet the young lady he has thus described instead of worshiping his ideal, his hair would stand on end with fright, and he would take to his heels and run away from such a fearful looking creature.—"Mr. Smiley," of Missouri.

"Mollie Moore" sends this little reminiscence of her younger days:

When I was a little girl I was very fond of pie—indeed I must confess to a weakness in that direction even now—and remember of taking every possible opportunity of gratifying my love for it. One thanksgiving time, I saw the cook place the row of pies for the next day's dinner in the store room and after a time I was missed. My father and mother were alarmed at my non-appearance at supper time, and a search was made for me, throughout the house. I was found at last, in the store room, sleeping sweetly, with my head resting on a sack of potatoes, while by my side, two empty pie tins bore mute witness to what I had done before I went to sleep.

Did those pies make me sick? Oh, no; but I was not given any more pie for several days afterwards, not even at the Thanksgiving dinner the next day.—"Mollie Moore," California.

"Brother Jonathan" answers "New England Girl:" "Mr. Smiley," I enjoyed your story of Missouri produces very much; your apple story was immense. I have dug apples out of the ground, but am obliged to say that they did not grow there, possibly the climate of Northwestern Ohio is not suitable for properly nourishing the roots of trees.

"New England Girl," I will try to answer your exceptions to a former letter of mine. You say that I implied that the girls keep the company of these "fast" young men because they admire their vices. You mistake my meaning in this, as I shall show you. I know many young men who use liquor and tobacco and indulge in vices not to be mentioned, who can, and do, select for their company, girls from the best society. Do these girls love those vices? No, and therein lies the point which I intended to make, and which you seem to have completely overlooked. It is this: These young men are what the world calls "good fellows"; they are free with their money and have plenty of it; they can sing a song, tell a story, dance beautifully and make themselves generally agreeable. They have a way that charms and fascinates the girls to that extent that their vices are ignored for the pleasure of their company; they are examples of gilded vice—pitfalls which the devil has dug to catch the unwary.

If this class of men could be made to understand that the girls would not countenance their wrongdoing by accepting their attentions, it would be a mighty influence in reforming them, for there are very few men who do not prefer the society of a good, pure girl to that of their boon companions of the saloon and street, but if they can have both, they will not give up the bad. Appeals to their sense of right and wrong have very little influence with these men, compared with that of knowing that they are shunned by the self-respecting people, and will not be admitted to their society as long as they continue in their evil ways.

I do not believe in "treating them as if they were dogs," but I do believe they should be treated in such a manner as will make them understand that we have no sympathy with their evil ways, nor that we will in any manner condone these social sins.

"Pansy," O., I am glad to know there is an M. G. R. living so near me, and I hope to have the pleasure of meeting you at some not far distant day.—"Brother Jonathan," Ohio.

"The King's Daughter" tells of a natural curiosity near her old home:

This is such a pleasant day that I thought I would bundle up the two babies and run in for a little visit with you. Little Alice Irene wishes to become a member of the Junior M. G. R., and while you are determining whether or not to admit her, I will tell you of an interesting spot near my childhood home.

No doubt you have heard of the famous walled lakes in Iowa; it is of one of these I wish to write. This lake is between three and four miles in length and about half as wide as long. There was, in the early days, a wall of solid stone, four feet high and one foot thick, all around the lake. No one knows when, or by whom this wall was built, although there is an Indian legend concerning it which I will tell you some other time, if you would care to hear it.

On the banks of this lake a town has sprung up and in a nearby grove is a summer resort. The bosom of the lake is dotted with boats of all kinds from a good sized steamer to the little row boats that are well patronized by the summer visitors. Much of the wall has been broken off and carried away by curiosity seekers.

Were it possible for the builders of this wall to return to the scene of their labors, they would, undoubtedly, be as surprised at the present surroundings as were the first discoverers of this wonderful work of surrounding a lake with a wall of solid rock.

Come, babies, we must go home before we quite exhaust Miss Prudence's patience—by the way, I wonder if her middle name isn't Patience—at any rate she must possess a great supply of that virtue to enable her to get on so well with her large family of M. G. R's.—"The King's Daughter," Iowa.

Banner Puzzlers

For November.

New Work—Metta
Solutions—Pauline

1.—WHO WAS HE?

He was born in Albany, N. Y., March 6, 1821, and graduated at West Point in 1853. He first gained distinction as a cavalry commander, then showed great qualities at Perryville and Murfreesboro, after which he was made a major-general. He also distinguished himself at Chickamauga and Chattanooga, and the part he played in its closing scenes made him one of the most famous generals of the civil war. He succeeded Sherman at the head of the army, and was made a full general. He died August 5, 1885.

W. C. MOLLETT.

2.—TRANSPOSITIONS.

'Tis of four letters I consist.
Arrange me and I then exist;
Transpose me, I am deep in sin,
Transpose again, I still am in.
Transpose again, I try to hide it;
Alas! there is a "lie" inside it!

MOLLIE MOORE.

3.—ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM

A butcher purchased 100 sheep, and had no fence with which to enclose them. He bought 100 barrels, and by setting them on end, just enclosed the sheep. He then purchased 100 more sheep; how many more barrels must he buy to enclose the 200?

E. M. SLIFE.

4.—CENTRAL ACROSTIC

X O X
X O X
X O X
X O X
X O X
X O X
X O X

1.—One that was in the Ark (Gen. 9:18).
2.—A king of Judah (1 Kings 15:8).
3.—One of David's mighty men (1 Kings 1:8).
4.—An eastern city (1 Chron. 8:12).
5.—A son of Hezron (Ruth 4:19).
6.—A tribe of American Indians.
7.—A son of Abdiel (1 Chron. 5:15).

Centrals give the name of the daughter of the priest of Oh.

C. M. B.

5.—QUERY.

What information can some one give us as to the "Kalevala"?

ELFA.

6.—QUOTATION.

Who wrote:
"I do not know
Where falls the seed that I have tried to sow.
With greatest care;
But I shall know
The meaning of each waiting hour below,
Sometime, somewhere."

METTA.

Answers to Puzzles of November 20

1.—Captain John Smith.
2.—"We get back our mete as we measure,
We cannot do wrong, and feel right;
Nor, can we give pain and gain pleasure,
For justice revenges each slight.
The air for the wings of the sparrow,
The bush for the robin and wren;
But always the pathway is narrow,
And straight, for the children of men."
3.—Length of bin, 13.55 ft. (See Chat.)
4.—Words forming square: Utah, tone, Anne, head.
5.—The city of Bela, doomed to destruction, was saved by the prayer of one righteous man, Lot. The name of the city was afterward changed to Zoar, meaning "little one."
6.—Charles Churchill wrote:
"Within the brain's most sacred cells,
A certain Lord Chief Justice dwells;
Of sov'reign power, whom one and all,
With common voice, we Reason call."

Chat.

The solution sent by Metta to the problem answered today is this:

Since the bin is twice as long as it is wide or high, it is equal to two cubical bins, each containing 250 bush. of grain 2150.42 cu. in. times 250 equals 537,605 cu. in., divided by 1,728 equals 311.11+the number of cu. ft. The cube rt. of this equals the depth or width of the bin, or 13.55+ft. and twice this equals the length of the bin, or 13.55 ft.

Correct recitations were given this morning by Offa Neal, A. P. W. P. E., W. Lake, Perry Cross, Howard F. Stewart, H. A. Winslow, Pauline, E. G. D. Holden.

Offa, cannot you write your solutions without using a diagram? That cannot be printed in Chat, and makes the solution practically useless.

W. Lake, indeed, you are only "one of the kids."

Perry Cross, send solution to your problem without a diagram.

Pauline, your penmanship is always "above par."

E. G. D. Holden, you are very much in order.

The Banner Puzzlers for November are: Metta for new work, and Pauline for correct solutions.

W. Lake, you were credited with those solutions on the record for November, but neither your name was mentioned in Chat or net.

Ninety-Five Years Ago.

CONCLUDED.

There was a village of Indians, one of a so-called friendly tribe, a few miles away. The family determined to make them their friends if possible, and succeeded so well that when the master was drafted in 1815 to carry provisions to Detroit, he had the chief and his band camp on his farm to protect his family during his three months' absence. The Indian children that autumn would come with the squaws to view the whites, and from them learned to know the ground nut, a white, sweet bulb growing in a long string, adding one-half a year. These, when roasted, gave them many delicious meals.

On week days every one who could use an axe was cutting down the forest and piling brush, while the half-grown boys guarded the stock on the marsh one side the pond. But the Sabbath. They had been brought up under the blue laws of old Connecticut, and that day found them at the usual hour of worship gathered around their fireside with their Bible, Watts' hymns and a book of sermons They had as true worship as though in some old cathedral.

They worked on until about five acres were ready for burning. Now came another misfortune. Their cows were attacked with what was known as the trembles from eating tremble weed, and died. Their pigs had foraged for themselves, and become so wild they were seldom seen. They had worn out all of their shoes of half tanned deerskin The flour was nearly exhausted and salt entirely gone, but the greatest and more terrible trouble than all, the dear old mother was suffering with a difficulty which the family had found no way of relieving, and they were fearful could not be relieved without a surgeon from the fort far away. A squaw came in, as they often did now, looked at her, saying, "squaw heap sick." In her broken way she found out the matter, took the cradle the men had made for the youngest child out of a hollow log, took off one of the rockers and laid her in, her feet the highest, and said: "Rock, rock all time!" They did so, and in an hour or two she was all right.

They were almost out of gunpowder now, and want began to stare them in the face. One day the remaining cattle had strayed a short distance and grandpa had gone after them, a strong wind having brought the sound of the bell so plainly, he thought them near. When a mile from home he ran along a big tree, blown down by the winds. As he reached the roots, a bear with two cubs, sprang after him. He ran a few feet and jumped over it. The bear was unable to do so, but went around to the other side. Again he jumped over, continuing to do so until the men, hearing his cries, came from home, and soon dispatched the animal, which gave them a supply of food for some time.

Something had to be done, as man can not live on meat alone, much less children, and it was decided the brothers should take their small boat (they had brought one on the flatboat) fill it with their few furs and skins and a few ounces of rattlesnake oil (a high priced medicinal remedy then), proceed to Buffalo, two hundred miles away, and bring back the products of their sale in flour, a little seed corn, salt and a few medicines. And, not to forget some precious newspapers. What would we do in this age of the world to have every letter, newspaper or news by word of mouth taken away from us for nearly a year, as had they. Letters were written to mail to the dear ones east when they reached Buffalo, although they could not wait to get answers, as only the slow stage coach carried the mail then between the cities, and horseback or on foot in the country places.

Two weeks of hard work brought the travelers back again with a good supply of gunpowder and various other necessities.

Again to work, and by the first of June five acres were ready to track in a little squaw corn among the stumps also some potatoes. These had not been tasted since they left civilization behind. Early and late the men were cutting down timber, excepting when hunting to give the family food.

Now came another piece of trouble. Their fine deer hound, loved as one of the family, while out with the master chasing a wounded deer, was gored and came home to die, and was buried with tears, by the children.

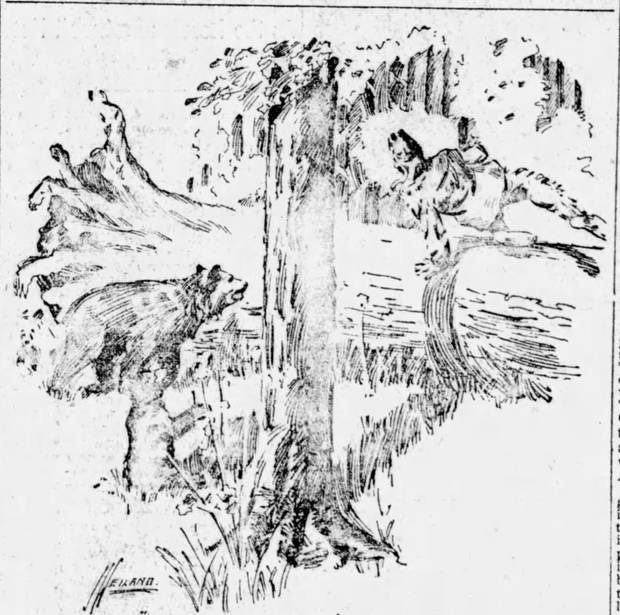
When the corn grew to roasting ears, they found they were raising it for raccoons and squirrels, so picked, boiled and dried it at once. A few beans were harvested. Their potatoes yielded bountifully. They were rich indeed.

Years of want, lack of things to make life beautiful, suffering for a change of diet, always wanting clothing and household necessities, without papers, books, or news from the outside world, they toiled on and succeeded, but the dear old mother fell in the bitter struggle. They made her lone grave in the wilderness. She was laid to rest with only her own household to prepare her for burial, make a prayer or sing.

Five years went by, and our emigrants were gladdened by a small settlement of three families, no more than six miles away. Each succeeding year brought a few more, until the war cloud finally burst in 1812. During the year 1816, I think, the first regular mail route was established, my father being the first carrier to take it through during the winter. This he did, walking each way with mail bags on his back, from the fort at Cleveland to Buffalo and back. During the years 1816 and 1817 the weather was the coldest ever known in New England. Late crops for man and beasts were cut off. In the interior both suffered from want. Then came a stampede for Ohio, "The land flowing with milk and honey." Onward they moved, great bodies of them. In carts, on horseback, on foot, any way to get there. The majority went to the southern part of the state. A large minority to the Firelands.

It is only ninety-five years since my grandfather moved to his western home in a wilderness. What of that home today? The old block house is still standing. Six miles east of it, a company has planted one of the greatest iron works in the United States. Where the flat-boat unloaded his goods and chattels there is now a fine harbor. Three million of dollars worth of exports and imports are moved to and from it each years—much of it by steam, which was only in the experimental stage ninety-five years ago. A large city of some thousands has grown up about it. Ten miles still further west is another manufacturing city. The whole Western Reserve has become a network of railroads, unknown in this country ninety-five years ago. Electricity, then the enemy of man, has become his servant, illuminating the streets and houses and bearing his burdens. The thickly settled townships abound in churches, schools and colleges. Vast agricultural establishments are giving farmers far different utensils from the hoe, scythe, sickle and flail, all they had in those days, with the old-fashioned plow, to do their farm work. The telegraph, telephone, photograph, chloroform were never known until years after. Even the simple match, and a host of articles we use so unthinkingly had not been discovered then. See the big cities on the Reserve. Cleveland has become the fifth city in the Union. All this within ninety-five years. There are men and women scattered all over Ohio today who have lived that length of time.

ELIZA M. MIXER.



"RAN A FEW FEET AND JUMPED OVER IT"

FATHER'S TROUBLES.

At our house 'bout once a month,
The boots and shoes wear out;
And all us children, great and small,
We stand in line against the wall,
Till Father comes, and shout:
"Oh, Daddy, dear, jus' look-a-here,
Our feets is on the ground;
We're scared to go to school, you know,
We'll catch bad colds out in the snow;
And measles is around."

Then father frowns and counts the feet,
All 'cross the ragged row;
And tells Black Mammy take us down
To the grea' big shoe store in the town,
Right where we love to go;
"Oh, Mr. Man, now ef you can,
Please shoe dese chillun strong;
I sut-ny thinks it's pizen queer,
De shoes you make don' las' a year,
Nor yit 'bout half dat long."

And so when we start for home again,
We'se feeling pretty proud;
We prance and dance along the street,
And crook our necks to watch our feet,
An awful stuck up crowd;
"Black Mammy Sue, please let us, do,
Jus' let us keep 'em on;
We'll walk so easy and so slow,
They'll last two years we almost know,
Before they're torn and gone."

—Augusta Kortrecht in Good Housekeeping.

OF ROYAL BIRTH.

AN ALLEGORY.

PART FIRST.

A crowd of boys stood at the playground gate. The morning school bell had not yet rung.

"See, here comes Athol," cried one. "Look you, how he carries his head. None will go before him today; he knows each word of the lesson. There is no chance for us, not one."

"Oh, let us hold to our post," laughed another. "Who can say what may befall ere the examination day? He may fall from a tree, or tumble into the waters of the great fountain by which he sits and dreams. Let us still hope."

Athol drew near. He was a princely looking boy, with black curls waving over a lofty brow and a frank open face. His keen dark eyes flashed over the faces of the boys, his opponents; for such, indeed, they were. Two months before a stranger from the great city had offered to the lad who took the highest place at the school examinations a post in his household, with chances of promotion. Hardly a boy but longed and strove for success. But none longed and strove as did Athol, at once the most gifted and the most ambitious of them all. He had but two rivals to fear—Heinrich in studies, Carl in gymnastics. Athol had set his heart on excelling both.

"Didst study thy lessons, Athol?" cried Carl. "Or, is there hope for us?"

"Let the end of the class hours reply to that; no prophet I," replied Athol.

"Perchance thou wilt forget one little question," said Heinrich, "and then?"

"'Twill be for the first time," was Athol's proud retort.

"But his mother gathered wood for the fire, and his father milked the cows after a hard, long day in the fields! Which of us could not know our lessons, did we leave our home tasks undone?" put in a boy who had not yet spoken.

Athol's face flushed. "The shaft went home. He was glad to hear the school bell ring.

At the noon recess, Athol, Carl and Heinrich sat apart from the others. A little lame child, very beautiful, came slowly and painfully up to them.

"Athol," he pleaded. "Take me to the river! Carry me on thy back! I would put my feet in the cool waters."

Athol shook his head.

"I have no time, little one. I must wrestle with Carl all the noontide, or I shall not win the wrestling prize."

"Then, Carl," urged the child.

Carl, too, refused.

"'Tis the only prize of which I have a chance," he said. "I, too, must wrestle all the noon."

"Nay, weep not, Eric," cried Heinrich. "No hope of wrestling prize for me. I will take thee."

Another child came up.

"My lessons are hard," he said. "Help me, Athol."

Upon Athol's refusal he turned to Heinrich, who said him nay.

"But I," laughed Carl, "have time being already at the foot of my class. I will help thee."

"See, Athol," said Heinrich. "Thou canst say nay twice to our once, thou art so gifted."

"Each of you," retorted Athol, "hath but given what cost him nothing. I see not whereof you make boast."

That night, having worked till he could work no more, Athol left the cottage, passed through the garden sleeping under the quiet moon, and sought his beloved fountain. It had been built by a stranger, who, finding in this remote spot ease from a sore sickness, had left this token of his gratitude. It was very beautiful, of the purest white marble. Three Naiads poured water from urns of graceful shape into the hollowed basin beneath. It fell now gently, musically, and flashed silver in the moon's rays. Athol sat on the lowest step, and yielded his soul to dreams.

Far along the high road, curving, a while line, away from him, lay the city of which he dreamed. He had heard travelers speak of its noble palaces, its wide streets, its great cathedral, its lofty towers of marble, its domes of fretted gold. Such a city was the place for a lad of his talents, his gifts, not this obscure village. Oh, if the days would but fly more swiftly, and bring the testing moments nearer!

Suddenly he felt that he was no longer alone. He felt a presence, powerful and beneficent, near him. He looked up. Opposite him sat a stranger. Athol rose.

LONDON GOSSIP.

Grip Prevalent in England—Distress Among the Poor.

London, Dec. 6.—The grip is unusually severe this winter and has already been felt throughout England, with the result that all who can do so are leaving. Hundreds of people are on their way to India to attend the Delhi durbar and others are going to the south of France and the Channel islands.

Christmas house parties are being organized at all the big country places, where the frost is rapidly spoiling the hunting and driving the "guns" indoors to less strenuous recreations, such as bridge, whist and amateur theatricals.

In East London the winter is having a very different effect. Thousands of unemployed persons daily congregate at the dockyard gates, literally fighting for a chance to do a day's work. Unskilled laborers are there in strong force and the police find it necessary to protect the foremost who distribute the work tickets each morning.

That portion of the fashionable world which can afford Christmas gifts is watching the purchases of the members of the royal family in order to follow suit. King Edward's gifts this year run largely to pen and pencil holders, cigarette cases and delicate enamel work set with a new variety of soft tinted, semi-transparent stones heretofore unknown in the realm of jewelry. Queen Alexandra is also partial to enamel work. This year she is giving photographs in artistic enameled frames, whereas the late Queen Victoria usually favored silver for the same purpose. Queen Alexandra's well known fondness for pearls leads her to distribute many of them among her more intimate friends at the Christmas season.

The King of Portugal made himself decidely popular during his stay in England, besides proving himself one of the best shots in Europe, a keen motorist, a clever painter and a good musician. During his visit to Blenheim Palace he treated the house party there to a number of French love songs and Portuguese ballads.

It is long since the leading theatres and restaurants have experienced so profitable a season as the present. The West End is ablaze with light nightly, all the amusement places are crowded and the theatre parties keep the fashionable in the hotels and restaurants until long after midnight. In the meantime, trade returns show the largest percentage for ten years past of unskilled persons out of work, while the proportion of skilled men without employment is constantly growing. The Woolwich arsenal authorities have discharged 2,000 mechanics since the winter set in, and are preparing to let out 4,000 more. To the army of people out of work must be added fifty-six thousand members of the army reserve who have been released from service with the colors.

The worst distress, naturally, is visible in the East End. A number of newspapers have started subscription columns and daily print glowing stories of half-clad school children, many of whom are without any food except scanty luncheons furnished by sympathetic teachers. A number of the London suburban councils are starting public works in order to employ a small proportion of the idle persons. The Canning Town suburb, where the distress is keenest, has appropriated $50,000 for relief work. The London county council will meet December 9 to consider the proposition for calling a conference of municipal bodies throughout the country to discuss what can be done towards establishing a permanent system for relieving the unemployed.

Coincident with the general distress and idleness the Ship Builders' Federation is quietly preparing for a test of strength with the labor unions that may precipitate a general strike equal to the great engineers strike of a few years ago. The ship builders, who have suffered for years from the restriction of output, countenanced by the unions, have decided that it is necessary to introduce radical reforms in the way of labor saving machinery. This means a reduction in the price of piece work, on which almost all the yards are running. The builders say that if the men accept the introduction of machine tools, most of which are of American origin, and agree to run the yards at their full capacity, it will enable them not only to make more wages, but will largely increase the output of the yards. Even the most optimistic builders have small hope that the reform will be accomplished without a stiff fight. They believe, however, that the time is ripe for the experiment, since the new machines in many cases can be run by unskilled laborers.

Lumbering Town Burned.

Ladysmith, Wis., Dec. 9.—Ingram, a lumbering town of 125 people, on the Soo railroad, has been destroyed by fire, according to a message received here today.

Weak Men Cured Free

Send Name and Address To-Day. You Can Have It Free and Be Strong and Vigorous for Life.

INSURES LOVE AND A HAPPY HOME.

How any man may quickly cure himself after years of suffering from sexual weakness, night losses, varicocele, etc., and enlarge small, weak organs to full size and

Health, Strength and Vigor For Men.

vigor. Simply send your name and address to Dr. Knapp Medical Co., 862 Hull bldg., Detroit, Mich., and they will gladly send you the free receipt with full directions so that any man may easily cure himself at home. This is certainly a most generous offer, and the following extracts taken from their daily mail, show what men think of their generosity.

"Dear Sirs:—Please accept my sincere thanks for yours of recent date. I have given your treatment a thorough test and the benefit has been extraordinary. It has completely braced me up. I am just as vigorous as when a boy, and you cannot realize how happy I am."

"Dear Sirs:—Your method worked beautifully. Results were exactly what I needed. Strength and vigor have completely returned and enlargement is entirely satisfactory."

"Dear Sirs:—Yours was received and I had no trouble in making use of the receipt as directed, and can truthfully say it is a boon to weak men. I am greatly improved in size, strength and vigor."

All correspondence is strictly confidential, mailed in plain, sealed envelope. The receipt is free for the asking, and they want every man to have it.

Going to Bed Hungry

It Is All Wrong and Man Is the Only Creature That Does It.

The complete emptiness of the stomach during sleep adds greatly to the amount of emaciation, sleeplessness and general weakness so often met with. There is a perpetual change of tissues in the body, sleeping or waking, and the supply of nourishment ought to be somewhat continuous and food taken just before retiring, adds more tissue than is destroyed, and increased weight and vigor is the result. Dr. W. T. Cathell says: "All animals except man eat before sleep, and there is no reason in Nature why man should form the exception to the rule."

If people who are thin, nervous and sleepless would take a light lunch of bread and milk or oatmeal and cream, and at the same time take a safe, harmless stomach remedy like Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets in order to aid the stomach in digesting it, the result will be a surprising increase in weight, strength and general vigor. The only drawback has been that thin, nervous, dyspeptic people cannot digest and assimilate wholesome food at night or any other time. For such it is absolutely necessary to use Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets, because they will digest the food, no matter how weak the stomach may be, nourishing the body and resting the stomach at the same time.

Dr. Stevenson says: "I depend almost entirely upon Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets in treating indigestion, because it is not a quack nostrum, and I know just what they contain, a combination of vegetable essences, pure pepsin, and they cure dyspepsia and stomach troubles, because they can't help but cure." Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are sold by druggists everywhere at 50 cents per package. They are in lozenge form, pleasant to take, and contain nothing but pure pepsin, vegetable essences and bismuth, scientifically compounded. Your druggist will tell you they give universal satisfaction.

THE PRETENDER

Declares He Will Attack Sultan of Morocco's Army.

Madrid, Dec. 9.—Dispatches from Fez, Morocco, allege that the pretender to the throne, who is still at Tazza, has assumed sovereign rights. He has issued a manifesto announcing that he has taken possession of the treasury, batteries of guns, and depots of arms, and saying that he intends to attack the sultan's army as soon as his reinforcements

SULTAN OF MOROCCO.

arrive. The pretender also has issued postage stamps.

The sultan is said to be preparing a large army with which to attack the pretender. The sultan is a resourceful man of decision and courage, and has as commander-in-chief of his army a Scotchman with a will of iron, Sir Harry Maclean, or, as he is known, Kaid Maclean. The commander is an energetic man of 55

SIR HARRY MACLEAN.

years. He has been in the Moorish service for twenty-four years. Foreigners in Morocco are confident that he will eventually put down the rebellion of the Kabyles of the hills.

"The sultan's forces have been afflicted with serious loss. After defeating the Zemur tribe recently, the sultan's army encountered another rebel force and a sanguinary fight followed, with the result that the Sherifian ruler was compelled to retire towards Fez."

MUTINY AT SEA.

Queenstown, Dec. 5.—The British ship Leicester Castle, from San Fransico July 26, arrived here today. Her commander reported that on September 2 three American seamen mutinied and Captain Peattie and his second officer were shot, the latter fatally, after an encounter with the mutineers who left the ship on a raft in midocean.

Captain Peattie gave the names of the mutineers as W. A. Hobbs, Ernest Sears and Turner. They were all shipped in San Francisco.

The second officer, Mr. Nixon, was shot while attempting to rescue the captain. In the darkness the mutineers got a few planks and coops, formed a raft and launched it from the ship, which was then about three hundred miles north of the Pitcairn islands. The captain searched for the raft the next day, but it was not sighted and it was surmised that it went to pieces.

STRIKE COMMISSION.

It Resumed Its Sessions After Ten Days' Recess.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 3.—After an adjournment of ten days, during which time the representatives of the operators and the miners were kept busy at work preparing evidence for submission to the anthracite coal strike commission, the hearings of the miners' side of the controversy was resumed in the state superior court room at 10 o'clock this morning. The usual large crowd was in attendance, and in addition there were several new faces among the large array of attorneys. The most prominent among these was Samuel Dickson, of Philadelphia, representing the Lehigh Coal & Navigation company, whose collieries are all located in the Panther Creek Valley. Among the spectators were about twenty Italians and Polanders, who will be called upon to tell of the conditions prevailing in the middle or Hazelton region.

Before the hearings began the commissioners held a brief conference, which delayed the opening of the public hearings about ten minutes.

In opening the day's proceedings Chairman Gray made an explanation of the attitude of the commission regarding the efforts at an outside settlement. He said there had been a misunderstanding in some quarters. The idea had gone out that the whole matter would be dismissed if an agreement was reached. This, he said, was incorrect. He read a statement made by the sub-committee in which it was stated that the commission would not abrogate its duties, and that it would stand responsible for any agreement it approved or award it made. The chairman also added that the commission wished to say that parties to the controversy may not withdraw without the assent of the other parties before the commission. "We would be glad to have everybody represented and have the whole field covered," he said.

Mr. Dickson announced that in addition to representing the Lehigh Coal & Navigation company, he appeared for the individual concerns in the Hazleton region. On the outside agreement proposition Chairman Gray announced that the commission still "entertained th ehope that efforts to agree would continue and that the commission would gladly lend its good offices to that end."

Judge Gray said that unless some compromise agreement was reached as to the presentation of figures, expectation of life of most of the members of the commission would be insufficient to reach an end to the controversy.

President Mitchell was called to the stand, and in answer to questions by his counsel, said the 20 per cent increase in wages would increase the labor cost less than ten cents a ton. Taking President Baer's statement as a basis, he said, the increase would be about 17 cents a ton.

He was cross-examined by Wayne MacVeagh and other attorneys. In reply to a question, Mr. Mitchell said the companies were not averse to increasing the wages of the men, but did not do so, because they were opposed to the union.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 8.—President Mitchell, of the Miners' union, who has been in constant attendance at the hearings of the strike commission, was not present today, having gone to New York to attend the meeting of the Civic Federation. Commissioner Clark, who as national president of the Order of Railway Conductors, is also a member of the federation, did not go.

Immediately after the opening of the morning session Chairman Gray said to the lawyers of the companies and the miners that the statements of earnings, hours, number of men employed, and data of that kind should now be in the hands of the commission. The commissioners, he said, are very anxious to examine these statements.

Atorney James H. Torrey, of the Delaware & Hudson, asked that the witnesses of G. B. Markle & Co., be asked to return for cross-examination because none of the lawyers for the Markle company was present. The commission thought it was not just to keep the witnesses here. The matter was set aside for the time being.

The first witness called was James Gallagher, a Markle employe, who was on the stand Sunday. He said it used to be the custom of the Markle company to contribute $50 to the family of a man killed in the mines and the men working with the man would lay off until the dead man was buried.

The Markles made a compact with the workmen whereby the company would pay the $50 and the men remain at work. The witness said the size of the mine cars has been steadily increased, but the wages paid have not been raised.

Frank Rea, a practical miner employed in the Markle mines, was then examined on conditions under which the men are working. His testimony was mostly of a techincal character.

Paul Dunleavy, another Markle miner, testified to having been refused work and being evicted at short notice. His wife's parents were ill and it was raining, but nothwithstanding this the company gave him five minutes to get out. He said he earned about $450 a year; out of his earnings he had to pay an assessment for company doctors. Married men are assessed 75 cents a month and single men 50 cents. Lawyer Daniel J. McCarthy, for the miners, explained to the commission that the company physicians have for assistants young men just graduated from medical schools, who, having failed to get positions in hospitals, do this service for experience.

Continuing, the witness said he had never seen the mine inspector in the mines where he worked. He complained of excessive docking. On cross-examination the witness said that nurses were furnished.

Another former Markle employe said he was given six days' notice to leave the house. Two days before the time limit expired his goods were placed on the roads.

Numerous grievances were not adjusted.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 6.—The Rev. J. J. Curran, of Wilkesbarre, who was on the stand yesterday when the coal strike commission adjourned, resumed the witness stand when the commission began its session at 10 o'clock today. Commissioner Parker was absent from the hearing today, having gone to Washington on private business. Father Curran was taken in hand by Harry Reynolds, one of the lawyers for the independent operators, who cross-examined him at some length regarding conditions in Wilkesbarre. After examining Father Curran on violence in the region and comparative wages, Mr. Reynolds proceeded to examine the clergyman regarding the comparative intelligence of the children

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Piles Cured Without Cutting, Danger or Detention From Work, by a Simple Home Remedy.

Pyramid Pile Cure gives instant relief and never fails to cure every form of this most troublesome disease. For sale by all druggists at 50c a package. Thousands have been quickly cured. Ask your druggist for a package of Pyramid Pile Cure, or write for our little book which tells all about the cause and cure of piles. Write your name and address plainly on a postal card. Mail to the Pyramid Drug Co., Marshall, Mich., and you will receive the book by return mail.

RHEUMATISM Cured Without Medicine.

9,000 Persons Permanently Cured by Magic Foot Drafts Last Year. They Will Cure You.

Trial Pair FREE on Approval to Anybody. Try Them.

The Drafts cured Mrs. W. D. Harriman, wife of Judge Harriman, of Ann Arbor, Mich.

They cured Carl C. Pope, U. S. Commissioner at Black River Falls, Wis., of Rheumatic Gout.

They cured severe rheumatism of the arms, neck and back for T. C. Pendleton, Jackson, Mich.

Mrs. Casper Yahrsdorfer, Jackson, Mich., 70 years old, was cured in a few weeks, after suffering for 30 years.

The Drafts cured James Gilbert, Locomotive Dept., Mich. Cent. R. R., Jackson, Mich., after 27 years of pain.

They cured Dr. Van Vleck, Jackson, Mich., and he is now using them in his practice.

Letters from these persons and many others are reproduced in our new booklet on rheumatism—also sent free with the trial pair of Drafts.

Send no money—we only ask your name and we will send your prepaid, a pair of Magic Foot Drafts. If you are satisfied with the relief they give you, then send us One Dollar. If not, don't send us a cent. We know there's comfort and happiness in every pair, and we want you to have them; that's why we are willing to take our pay after the work is done.

The drafts are worn on the soles of the feet, but they cure rheumatism in every part of the body by drawing out and absorbing the poison from the system, besides greatly benefiting the general health. Try them—FREE. Write today to Magic Foot Draft Co., W. B., 11 Oliver Building, Jackson, Mich.

of the miners. Father Curran said they compared favorably with other children. Referring to the non-union men, Father Curran said that most of the people of the coal regions believed the miners should have better wages.

"If a so-called 'scab' takes the place of a man who is trying to get his rights, that so-called 'scab' is doing wrong and an injustice to the people in his community," said Father Curran. He admitted that most of the violence committed resulted from attempts of mine owners to resume work.

John O'Brien, an attorney for the non-union men, next examined Father Curran. He read Governor Stone's proclamation describing the violence and reign of terror that existed in the region during the strike, and the clergyman said that some of the things stated in the proclamation did not exist. This concluded his examination.

Commissioner Watkins has asked the attorneys for the miners and the Philadelphia & Reading company if any effort was made by the companies and the miners to get into more harmonious relations as a result of the 1900 strike. The attorneys said they would give the information later.

A 12-year-old breaker boy employed in the Markle mines at Jeddo was then called to the stand. The boy said he had one year's schooling and that his father was killed in the mines. He worked six weeks before the strike, and has been working since the suspension ended. He produced due bills showing that he earned four cents an hour. He received no money, however, because there was an old debt against his father. He was working to pay this off and also the rent of his mother's house. His mother, he said, had to keep boarders, nine persons living in a four-room house.

James Gallagher, who was employed in the Markle mines, said that he had received money once in seventeen years and nine months. He explained this by saying that he never got enough money for himself, that the company store got it all.

EVACUATING SHANGHAI.

London, Dec. 3.—A parliamentary paper issued today, giving the correspondence relating to the evacuation of Shanghai by the troops of the powers interested, only confirms the information on the subject previously cabled in these dispatches. The most istriking point is the directness with which Foreign Secretary Lansdowne instructs Minister Satow at Pekin, to inform Prince Ching, president of the Chinese foreign office, that "his duplicity" in agreeing to Germany's conditions regarding the Yang-tse valley, while simultaneously informing Great Britain that he knew nothing thereof, "was deeply resented," and that Great Britain would not be bound by any pledges of the Chinese government or the viceroys whereby British freedom of action to maintain order and protect British interests in the Yang-tse valley would be limited. A similar notification was sent to Germany, Lord Lansdowne stating that the principle of the "open door" on which Germany based the proposed conditions was sufficiently safeguarded by the existing inter-agreements. Germany replied that she would drop the conditions as she had received satisfactory assurances from China.

ANOTHER BOODLER.

St. Louis, Dec. 6.—After two days of trial, Charles J. Denny, the millionaire brewer and director in the suburban street railway company, formerly a member of the house of delegates, charged with perjury in connection with the suburban bill boodle deal, was found guilty last evening and his punishment fixed at two years in, the penitentiary.

Denny last night gave bond, pending a motion for a new trial. Edward Butler, who was recently convicted at Columbia, Mo., on a charge of bribery and has appealed his case, qualified as Denny's bondsman. In accepting Butler, Judge Ryan reversed his recent decision, which declared that Butler was civilly dead. When Butler applied to be accepted as bondsman for Charles A. Gutke, who had come into court to answer to a new information, Judge Ryan ruled that as Butler was under conviction for a crime, with a punishment of three years' imprisonment attached, he had forfeited his legal rights and was civilly dead. Judge Ryan stated he was in error in his first decision, and, therefore, reversed it, restoring Butler to his full rights as a citizen. He then accepted Butler as a bondsman.

PLOT AGAINST EMPEROR.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 3.—The steamer Kaga Maru, which arrived yesterday from the Orient, brought news of an attempt on the life of the emperor of Japan, when the imperial train was at Otaka, en route to the scene of the maneuvers at Hinshia. A number of conspirators had gone there, and arranged to blow up the emperor's train, but the police authorities learned of the plot and the would-be dynamiters fled. The emperor's train did not proceed until an engine had been sent over the line.

PALMA'S FAT SALARY.

Havana, Dec. 5.—La Lucha says President Palma is drawing a larger salary than the former Spanish captain general or General Wood. It states that according to the budget President Palma received $25,000 allowance for salary, $25,000 for secret expenses, $7,560 for servants and $8,040 for sundry expenses relating to furniture and his stable. The Spanish captain general, says the paper, received a total of $41,000, and General Wood $17,000.

AN ULTIMATUM

Sent to Venezuela by Great Britain and Germany.

London, Dec. 8.—Premier Balfour announced in the house of commons today that an ultimatum had been sent to Venezuela and that in the event of a satisfactory reply not being received the British and German governments would take measures to enforce their claims against that country.

Mr. Balfour, when questioned on the Venezuelan subject by Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, said: "For over two years we have had grave cause for complaint on various occasions of unjustifiable interference by the Venezuelan government with the liberty and property of British subjects. No efforts have been spared by the British government to obtain an amicable settlement of these cases, but in none of them have satisfactory explanations been forthcoming. Latterly the representations of the British minister have been practically unnoticed. There are also cases in which British subjects and companies have large claims. We have been acting in conjunction with the German government, which has also large claims against Venezuela." A final communication has been made to the Venezuelan government by the British minister and the German charge."

Mr. Balfour said the communication to Venezuela was neither joint nor identic.

Berlin, Dec. 8.—The German-British ultimatum to Venezuela was presented at three o'clock yesterday afternoon at Caracas.

Paris, Dec. 8.—Several newspapers here are urging the French government to send warships to participate in the naval demonstration against Venezuela, pointing out the extent of French interests in that country. It is said at the foreign office, however, that the government will adhere to its purpose to hold aloof from the movement, as the protocol signed by France and Venezuela assures a satisfactory settlement of the French claims.

Berlin, Dec. 9.—While the limit of time given to Venezuela in which to make an answer to the ultimatums of Germany and Great Britain is not disclosed, the correspondent of the Associated Press was officially informed that it was very brief. The German foreign office still hopes that President Castro will recognize the gravity of the situation and yield at the last moment.

Telegraphic communication with La Guaira is slow. Events happening today are not likely to be translated from the cipher till tomorrow.

The morning papers make absolutely no comment on the Venezuelan situation, with the exception of the Vorwaerts, which says that "although President Castro has expressed his willingness to satisfy the German and British demands, military action against him has begun," and the Lokal Anzeiger, which remarks that "President Castro's efforts to drive a wedge between Germany and Breat Britain have failed."

Ministers Go to Warships.

Caracas, Dec. 9.—The British minister, W. H. D. Haggard, and the German charge d'affaires, Von Pilgrim-Baltazzi, left Caracas yesterday afternoon for La Guaira, where Minister Haggard went on board the British cruiser Retribution and Herr Von Pilgrim-Baltazzi boarded the German cruiser Vineta. Both the British and German legations have been closed.

Castro Can Not Relieve It.

The Venezuelan press publishes an open letter by President Castro on the embroglio with Great Britain and Germany. In this communication President Castro says:

"Foreign cablegrams relate that certain foreign nations, among them Great Britain and Germany have allied themselves together to carry out acts of violence and aggression against Venezuela, and their manner of obtaining the resumption of the payment interest on the public debt was to be suspended as a consequence of the revolution that I lately crushed. Notwithstanding the official character of this news I refuse to believe it, because it is inconceivable that nations which entertain cordial and friendly relations with Venezuela should prefer to resort to force rather than to follow the diplomatic path, especially when the supposed differences come fully within the jurisdiction of our laws, which are based on the principles of justice, which, together with the other attributes of authority, I have just redeemed. Had Venezuela refused to fulfill her fiscal engagements and had justice and diplomacy exhausted their resources against such an attempt, only then could such extreme acts be expected, but this will never happen."

Cabinet Discusses Trouble.

Washington, Dec. 9.—At today's meeting of the cabinet Secretary Hay brought to the attention of the President and other members of the cabinet the latest phases of the Venezuelan situation, which, in the opinion of well informed officials here, is likely to become even more acute than it is at present.

Before they left Caracas the British and German forces requested United States Minister Bowen to take charge of the interests of their countries in Venezuela. This request will be granted, as there is no warrant for a declination in such cases.

This is not likely to be the end of Mr. Bowen's activities, for from the tenor of some of the communications he has made to the department, it is inferred that if he sees an opportunity to use his good offices as a mediator between President Castro and the British and German representatives he will promptly avail himself of that opportunity. The state department is not encouraging him in this attitude, preferring to avoid all entanglements, but being on the spot and willing to do what he can to prevent a crisis, Mr. Bowen may be allowed some measure of discretionary power.

The state department is perfectly aware of the intentions of the British and German governments, having been informed in advance, and it sees no reason to interfere at this stage, if at all.

Castro Has 72 Hours to Decide.

London, Dec. 9.—One of the largest English creditors of Venezuela informed a representative of the Associated Press today that the ultimatums of Great Britain and Germany have a seventy-two hours' limit, and therefore will expire on Wednesday. The foreign office, while not denying the correctness of this statement, intimated tonight that the period is liable to extension. There are some indications of possible settlement, though apparently nothing definite has yet been decided.

OLD FENIAN FLAG.

Buffalo, Dec. 8.—An old flag of faded green silk has been presented to the Buffalo Historical Society, and henceforth will occupy a prominent place in the society's building. It was the only flag carried by the Fenians in their memorable invasion of Canada in 1866. In the center of the flag is a golden sunburst which was partly obliterated by a British bullet at Ridgeway, May 31, 1866. Under the sunburst are the words:

"Buffalo Seventh Regiment, Irish Army of Liberation."

Beneath this is an inscription placed on the flag after the Fenians had returned from Canada:

"Ridgeway and Fort Erie, June 2, 1866."

Occupying the center of the right-hand half of the flag is the following, also in golden letters:

"Presented by the Fenian Sisterhood of Buffalo, May 6, 1866."

The flag was presented to the Buffalo Fenians by Irish-American women.

CAPITAL GOSSIP.

Trust Legislation Probable—The Monument to Gen. Grant.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 8.

Though it seems well determined that the present session of congress will not adjourn without some action relative to trusts having been taken, the exact character of the legislation is as yet undecided. In the formation of the bill to be presented to the house by the sub-committee of the judiciary commitee which is now holding daily sessions, much of a rivalry has arisen between Representative Jenkins, of Wisconsin, the chairman of the committee, and Mr. Littlefield, of Maine, who seeks in a measure to dominate all trust enactments, Jenkins believes, and has so asserted himself both in private and public, that the limit of legislation has been reached in the Sherman act and nothing further can be done without a constitutional amendment. Representative Littlefield dissents from this view and is confident the Sherman law may be so amended as to secure publicity without interfering with constitutional authority. Thus far Mr. Jenkins has permitted the views of Littlefield to predominate in order to avoid any suggestion of friction but he will demand, before any bill be presented to the house, an opportunity of being heard and proposing at least certain amendments which he believes of vital and pressing importance. The bill will not be presented before January but immediate action on it thereafter will be urged.

It costs a pretty penny for the government to pay the rent on the buildings it leases in this city and the amount is growing every year. For the present year the amount paid in rents in this way will reach the total of $210,064.94, and after February next this will be increased by $50,000 that being what the government is to pay for the new Mills building at the corner of Seventeenth and Pennsylvania avenue. This is to be used by the war and navy departments for the work in hydrographics and insular affairs. More than fifty private buildings are leased in whole or in part in Washington and the rental represents four per cent interest on $6,500,000.

A somewhat peculiar situation regarding a new monument to be erected by the government in honor of General Grant has been shown to exist through the visit to this city of T. C. Campbell, esq., formerly of Cincinnati but now of New York. Congress at its last session authorized the submission of models for a monument the cost of which to the government should not exceed $250,000. Among the competitors were two famous New York sculptors, Mr. Neihouse and Mr. Shrady. After a vigorous competition the Shrady model was adopted. Mr. Neihouse now contends that the Shrady model contemplates a monument to cost $350,000 and that while the government will only be called upon to expend $250,000, the balance is to be furnished by wealthy and influential friends. He declares that had the same opportunity been given him he would have furnished a model of a much more elaborate and pleasing kind. His petition is that either Mr. Shrady be compelled to submit a plan for a $250,000 statue or he be allowed to furnish one costing $350,000. On that basis he is willing to abide by the result. Mr. Campbell has secured the aid of a number of prominent men in his fight and the matter will probably be reopened. The monument is to be located in Washington.

THE ARMY CANTEEN.

Washington, Dec. 5.—Gen. Bates, paymaster general of the army, has sent a communication to Adjutant General Corbin in regard to the army canteen question, in which he says:

"The claim of the war department in recommending the restoration of the canteen to the army, that during the operations of the canteen law the discipline of the army was superior, desertions less and that there were fewer fines and forfeits or courts-martial on account of breaches of military discipline, resulting from the use of intoxicants by men in the service appears to be fully borne out by the records of the paymaster general's office. These records show that the paymaster of the army collected from 75,000 enlisted (regulars) during the last year, in which the canteen was in force, on account of fines and forfeiture, $462,698, while during the fiscal year 1902, since the abolishment of the canteen, there was collected by paymasters from about 70,000 enlisted men (regulars) on the same account, $632,125.

"The fact, therefore, appears undisputable by the figures cited that the fines and forfeitures imposed upon and collected from the enlisted men of the army were vastly increased during the year subsequent to the abolishment of the canteen, which increase cannot be well attributed to another cause than the effects of an uncontrolled liquor traffic in connection with military posts which traffic appears to seriously affect the discipline and morals of the army."

GUESTS AT THE DURBAR.

Calcutta, Dec. 3.—Among the guests expected at Delhi for the coronation durbar on January 1 are the Duke and Duchess of Portland, the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough, the Earl and Countess of Crewe, the Earl and Countess of Lonsdale, the Earl of Durham, and Mrs. Leiter and Miss Leiter, the mother and sister of Lady Curzon. Among the Americans who will attend the durbar is Mr. Henry Phipps, Mr. Carnegie's partner, who will be accompanied by ten friends.

The Pioneer describes the view across the camp at Delhi from Flagstaff Hill as a delightful picture. There are lawns, flower beds, avenues of glittering tents and silken shamianas, with gold draperies and waving flags as far as the eye can see.

A special telegraph office has been fitted up to accommodate 200 operators. There are 30 emergency wires, which have a working capacity of nearly one million words per day.

An extraordinary rumor is in circulation in the bazaars regarding the archaeological researches of Lord Curzon, the viceroy. It is believed that he has been searching for the throne of King Solomon and it is now reported that the throne has been found and that Lord Curzon will sit on it during the coronation durbar. It is expected then that some astonishing supernatural event will occur.

COUNTERFEITERS CAUGHT.

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 4.—United States secret service operators, William J. Burns and P. C. Dick, yesterday raided a house on Woodward avenue in Highland Park, about five blocks outside the Detroit city limits, and placed under arrest three men giving the names of Frank McTague, Henry E. Busenbark and Neil Huard, who will be arraigned on the charge of counterfeiting. The officers charge that they caught Busenbark and Huard red-handed working with the moulds and McTague, who had been living with them in the house, was arrested last night. It is said that thousands of dollars' worth of spurious silver dollars have been circulated in the neighborhood of Detroit. Thirteen complete sets of moulds for silver dollars were found on the premises, together with a very fine electric plating machine.

PISO'S CURE FOR CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS. Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists. CONSUMPTION

MRS. IDA McDONALD,

Supreme Deputy of the Maccabees of the World.

Mrs. Ida McDonald.

MRS. McDONALD, No. 477 Beaubien Street, Detroit, Mich., is a prominent woman who was greatly benefited by the great woman's medicine, Wine of Cardui. Mrs. McDonald is the supreme deputy of the Maccabees of the World, and one of the most widely known women in the United States. Thousands of women gather to hear her lecture everywhere she goes. The great work she has done for the Maccabees is appreciated by every member of the order. She was so absorbed in her work that she neglected to give her health proper care—failed to take warning that the symptoms of approaching kidney trouble gave her, the sallow complexion and torpid liver. But Wine of Cardui cured her the same as it has cured thousands of others and Mrs. McDonald has written this letter in order that other suffering women may secure from Wine of Cardui the same relief she got from it.

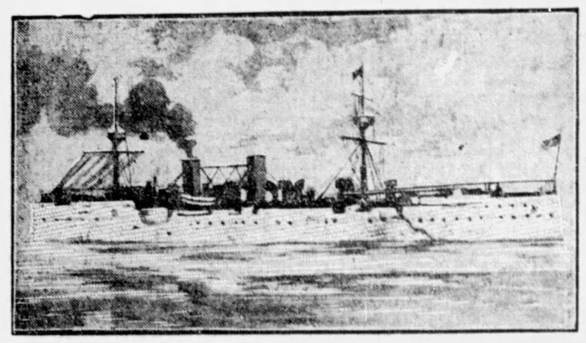
"For four years I suffered with torpid liver until my skin looked yellow and dull. I then found my kidneys were affected and had severe pains across my back, and I felt that I must do something to regain my health. A friend advocated your Wine of Cardui treatment so strongly that I decided to try it, although I had little faith in patent medicines. I am now very thankful that I did so, for within ten days blessed relief came to me, and in less than three months I was cured, and have enjoyed fine health ever since. I know there is nothing better for a sick woman who wishes to enjoy perfect health and am very pleased to give my hearty endorsement."

No suffering woman can afford to ignore such a letter as Mrs. McDonald writes. Her plans and advice have proved valuable in building up one of the greatest women's organizations in the United States and she takes time to give advice which she knows will help you.

Do not delay in securing this medicine. There is nothing to gain and everything to lose by delay. The choice is before you. Will or will you not secure relief now by taking Wine of Cardui? All druggists sell $1.00 bottles of Wine of Cardui as well as 25c packages of Thedford's Black-Draught.

WINE of CARDUI A million suffering women have found relief in Wine of Cardui.

THE CRUISER BALTIMORE NEARLY READY FOR SEA



New York, Dec. 9.—The cruiser Baltimore, of Manila fame, is being refitted from stem to stern at a cost of $350,000 in the New York navy yard. It is expected that she will receive her finishing touches by the end of this week.

BJORNSON IS 70.

Famous Norwegian Writer's Birthday Celebrated

Christiania, Dec. 8.—Bjornstjerne Bjornson, the Norwegian poet, dramatist, novelist and political reformer, was 70 years old today, and the event was made the occasion for celebration throughout Norway.

Bjornson is the national poet of Norway. His name is a synonym of the hopes and aspirations of the Norwegian people in their political and intellectual struggles.

Bjornson was born in 1832 and began his literary career in the early 50's. In 1857 he published a peasant novel, "Synnove Solbakken," which proved epoch-making in Scandinavian literature. In it, and several others that followed, is given an idealized picture of peasant life —brought the thoughts and aspirations of the peasantry into literature. These stories have been a great source of pleasure and profit to the Norwegian people. Peasants have read them and learned to know their better selves.

Bjornson's literary activity since the days of the peasant novel has been to elevate the Norwegian people. And to accomplish this he has worked in various directions. He has written numerous songs that have fired his countrymen with a spirit of self-reliant patriotism; other songs touching the various phases of life and love that have been ennobling and refining. He has written historical dramas to bring vividly before his people the sturdy qualities of their forefathers; the powerful social dramas which probe deep in social evils, not primarily for dramatic effect, but to arouse the public conscience and to suggest the remedy; modern realistic novels that have dealt in the broadest manner with the great questions of education, religion and domestic duty.

Bjornson is therefore known better in Scandinavia as a political reformer, though his reputation outside his native country is that of a delightful novelist and poet. A republican of the republicans, he has for years been dodging jails and writing problem books. Years ago he was given a jail sentence for treason, but got out of Norway, and lived in Germany until 1882. On his return to Christiania he at once resumed his anti-government agitation and his novel writing. He wrote tragedies, too, and won a wide fame as a writer and describer of Norwegian life. His seventy years weigh lightly on him, and he is full of intellectual and physical vigor. He is the son of a country pastor, and began his career by writing folk stories for periodicals. His early education was received in Denmark, and his literary masters are Danish. He has written about twenty-five works in all—plays and novels.

TO ADMIT OKLAHOMA.

Washington, Dec. 3.—When the senate met to-day, Mr. Nelson (Minn.), from the committee on territories, reported a substitute for the house bill having for its admission of certain territories into the union as states, and recommending the admission of Oklahoma and Indian Territory in as one state under the name of Oklahoma.

Mr. Penrose moved to take up the immigration bill and Mr. Quay wanted it distinctly understood that nothing was to interfere with the bill admitting the new states.

President Pro Tem. Frye held that the bill would become the unfinished business unless displaced by a vote of the senate.

The senate then began consideration of the house immigration bill.

TREATY IN DANGER.

Washington, Dec. 5.—The unexpected turn in the Cuban treaty negotiations at Havana have greatly surprised the officials here, who had every reason to believe from Minister Squirers' reports that the treaty was practically an accomplished fact. Now that it is to be thrown into the house of representatives at Havana with a Nationalist majority, supposed to be hostile to the establishment of closer relations with the United States, it is feared that the treaty is lost, for if not rejected outright, it is almost certain to be amended so as to make it unacceptable to the United States.

California's Vote.

San Francisco, Dec. 5.—The official vote of California for governor, announced by Secretary of State Curry today, is: Pardee, Republican, 146,336; Lane, Democrat, 143,783; Pardee's plurality, 2,553.

A GOLD BASIS.

Mexico to Abandon the Silver Standard in Favor of Gold.

New York, Dec. 5.—The determination of the Mexican Government to establish that country on a financial basis similar to that adopted in Japan, which went from a silver to a gold basis some five years ago, has been welcome news in financial and industrial circles. When Mexico carries out this program the value of the Mexican silver dollar will be fixed at fifty cents. This will put an end to the wide fluctuations in the value of money which have proved so serious in the business relations of Mexico with other countries. It is a well known fact that one of the most prominent banking houses in this city, having international relations with Mexico, is now arranging to secure the gold required by the Mexican Government to make the basis for its circulating medium.

In this city, where so many Mexican enterprises have offices, the officials in charge say that the Mexican Government will, by establishing values on a gold basis stop the wide fluctuations which have done much to embarrass the commercial development of Mexico. The announcement of the change to a gold basis will be immediately followed by the influx of capital from the States, and enterprises will be at once undertaken which will rapidly promote the prosperity of the Mexican Republic. No better pulse of the situation exists than the Mexican Central Railway Company, which traverses the great republic from El Paso, on the Texas line, to the City of Mexico; and from Tampico, on the Gulf of Mexico, to Manzanillo, on the Pacific. This great road with its many feeders, is the great trunk line of Mexico, and since the plans of the Mexican Government have leaked out, merchants, manufacturers and capitalists have been making inquiries, all indicative of the interest that capital and energy take in promoting trade in this country now that the basis of values is to be established.

The wealth of Mexico is as yet an unknown quantity. It depends upon the energy and capital that is put into developing her incalculable resources. Besides her mines, she possesses great agricultural possibilities. In every direction the investigator finds inviting opportunities for capital and energy. No better evidence of what can be accomplished, even under disadvantageous conditions, can be found than by comparing the growth of certain localities along the line of the Mexican Central, during the past ten years. On every side can be found evidences of growth and growing prosperity and each point has become a market for goods manufactured in the United States. The fixing of the currency on a gold basis means comm

THE TREASURY.

Annual Review of Uncle Sam's Money Transactions.

Washington, Dec. 3.—The annual report of Leslie M. Shaw, secretary of the treasury, was made to congress today. It shows the revenue of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1902, as $684,326,280.47, the main items of which were: From internal revenue, $271,880,122.10; customs, $254,444,708.19; postal service, $121,848,047. 26; profits on coinage, etc., $10,979,506.57. The expenditures were: Civil establishment, $11,067,171.39; military, $112,272,216.08; naval, $67,803,128.24; Indian service, $10,049,584.86; pensions, $138,488,559.73; interest on debt, $29,108,044.82; postal deficiency, $2,402,152.52; postal service, $121,848,047.26; total, $593,038,904.90; showing a surplus of $91,287,375.57.

Compared with the fiscal year 1901, the receipts for 1902 decreased $14,990,250.45. There was a decrease of $83,776,495.51 in expenditures.

The revenues of the government for the current fiscal year are thus estimated upon the basis of existing laws as $694,020,630; expenditures, $651,020,630; surplus, $43,000,000.

The treasurer of the United States in his annual report distinguishes, as the striking feature of the condition of the treasury, the magnitude of the available cash balance and the unprecedented holdings of gold. Among the notable events of the last fiscal year are the diminution of revenues due to the repeal of war taxes, the reduction of expenditures, and the changes in the composition of the paper currency. United States notes and treasury notes were redeemed in gold to the amount of $17,482,590 of the former and $1,274,590 of the latter, without any impairment of the gold reserve of $150,000,000.

The increase of the available cash balance was $33,780,563, bringing the total on June 30 to $212,187,361. By October 1, 1902, the total increased to $221,253,894, but was reduced by November 1 to $206,421,878.30. Inclusive of the gold reserve, the available balance on June 30, was $362,187,361, the largest in the history of the department, for while these figures are exceeded by the records of 1879, the latter included in the account the funds held temporarily against called bonds. After allowing for subsidiary silver, silver bullion, and minor coin not available for large payments, there remained in the treasury vaults November 1 a fund of over $56,000,000, which is slightly in excess of what is deemed a fair working balance. Nearly half of the net available cash balance, over and above the reserve of $150,000,000, was in gold and gold certificates, which amounted to $103,801,290, and increased by November 1 to $113,542,933, a sum far exceeding the outstanding liabilities.

The marked characteristics of the foreign commerce of the United States during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1902, were a decrease of $160,045,590 in exports and an increase of $80,148,783 in imports. The total exports of the year were $1,381,719,401, of which $1,355,481,861 was of domestic production; the total imports were $903,320,948, making the excess of exports over imports $478,398,453. The decrease in exports is chiefly due to the unusual home demand, to the shortage in the corn crop of 1901, and to a reduction in prices of certain great staples exported.

The commissioner-general of immigration reports that there arrived at ports of the United States during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1902, 648,743 aliens as steerage passengers and 82,055 as cabin passengers, aggregating a total alien immigration of 730,798. This total, however, does not include all the alien arrivals during the period named, as no record is kept of those coming from Mexico and Canada, except such as have come from the last named country within one year after arrival therein from some transoceanic port.

Bubonic plague, the existence of which was first reported in San Francisco March 8, 1900, and confirmed by a commission appointed by the department consisting of three bacteriologists of the highest reputation, continues to be reported, despite the amount of work which was done last year for the purpose of its eradication from Chinatown in that city, and which work covered, as stated in last year's report, the disinfection of over 14,000 rooms, seven cases were reported in October.

No yellow fever has been reported in the United States during the past year.

On June 30, 1902, the merchant marine of the United States, including all kinds of documented shipping, comprised 24,273 vessels, of 5,797,902 gross tons. On June 30, 1901, it comprised 24,057 vessels, of 5,524,218 gross tons. American shipping was greater in volume on June 30, 1902, than ever before in our history. The tonnage losses of the civil war have been more than made good. New vessels of the year have been of superior types, including the largest transatlantic steamer ever built in the United States, the fastest steamer for Asiaic trade yet built in any country and the largest steamer ever launched into the waters of the Pacific.

The number of disasters to documented vessels within the scope of the life saving service was 385. On board these vessels were 3,424 persons, of whom 19 were lost. The estimated value of the vessels was $9,253,630, and that of their cargoes $5,139,380, making the total value of property involved $14,393,010. Of this amount, $12,125,220 was saved and $2,267,790 lost. The number of vessels totally lost was 51. In addition to the foregoing there were 361 casualties to undocumented craft—sailboats, rowboats, etc.—carrying 796 persons, 6 of whom perished. The value of the property involved in these instances is estimated at $174,120, of which $167,575 was saved and $6,545 lost.

I believe the treasury of the United States would be in less danger with an express provision for the exchangeability of gold and silver than under existing laws. At the present time the treasury furnishes all the gold needed, whatever the purpose for which it is demanded. There can be no valid reason, legal, economic, or equitable, why the government should not redeem in gold all its own obligations, whether they be represented in paper, 10 per cent fiat, or in silver, 40 per cent fiat. When the government expressly guarantees its own issue, no objection can appropriately be urged against requiring banks to pay their notes in gold.

Recent events not only justify but enforce the conclusion that our banking system is imperfect. During certain months of the year interest rates dropped dangerously low—dangerous in the sense that speculation was invited thereby. When the time arrived for moving crops, rates advanced alarmingly high. Meantime the price of government bonds rendered the maintenance of national bank circulation unprofitable, and this class of currency was retired with great rapidity. I see no objection to the issuance of circulation based upon general credits, if properly safeguarded. Neither do I believe it necessary to make currency thus issued a first lien upon assets. A very small tax upon circulation would be sufficient to cover any possible loss.

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When applied to cavity or surface of aching tooth relieves the pain instantly. No experiment, but a standard and widely known remedy. Be sure to get DENT'S; imitations are useless. All druggists, or by mail, 15c.

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I have been a sufferer from Rheumatism for more than six months. I could not raise my hands to my head or put my hands behind me, or even take off my own shirt. Before I had finished three-fourths of a bottle of Radway's Ready Relief I could use my arms as well as ever. You can see why I have such great faith in your relief. Yours truly,

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BE SURE TO GET RADWAY'S

PLAN TO RELIEVE GENERAL SMITH

Southard Will Soon Name West Point Cadet—Ankeney in Washington.

Special Telegram to The Blade:

Washington, D. C., Dec. 9.—If President Roosevelt will co-operate in a plan which Senators Foraker and Hanna have evolved, General Smith, of Portsmouth, who was retired on account of his alleged severity in the Philippines, may be reinstated without a special act of congress. The plan is to have the President appoint him to the first vacancy which occurs among the brigadier generals. Both senators are earnest in Smith's behalf and believe upon information received that such a proceeding will be entirely legal.

Congressman Southard is concerning himself with the question of the appointment of a West Point cadet to succeed H. H. Hyatt, of Toledo, who resigned. There is a long list of applicants from which to make a selection and it is probable that one of these will be chosen without a competitive examination, as the majority of the applicants took this examination at the time Mr. Hyatt was appointed. The matter will be settled within a short time.

Hon. Horace Ankeney, of Alpha, Greene county, who was recently elected dairy and food commissioner of Ohio, will come to Washington within the next week or ten days to consult with Senator Hanna and Congressman Dick regarding the matter of appointments for his office. Mr. Ankeney who, though in public life for some years, has never encountered this sort of a proposition before, is in something of a dilemma. He finds himself burdened with a hundred applicants for every place and as most of them are good men, the question of a right selection is a serious and perplexing one. Therefore he feels that Hanna and Dick, who are accustomed to this sort of thing can give him good and friendly advice, and it is to receive this that he is coming on. Moreover, he wants to see Washington and familiarize himself with the sights of the national capital.

MAY MARRY ALICE.

Washington, Dec. 3.—Lieut. James C. Greenway, to whom gossip has betrothed Miss Alice Roosevelt, is a young Pennsylvanian who served through the

Spanish-American war under Roosevelt. He was the first man to reach the summit of the famous San Juan hill. The President has taken occasion to emphatically deny that his daughter is engaged to be married.

NOMINATIONS.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The President today sent the following nominations to the Senate:

Albert B. Anderson, United States judge for the district of Indiana.

Collector of internal revenue—William E. Howell, district of Louisiana; Michael J. Jenkins, district of South Carolina; Joseph O. Thompson, district of Alabama.

Assistant treasurer of the United States—A. Lincoln Dryden, at Baltimore, Md.

Surveyor of customs—Elijah Wadkins, port of Knoxville, Tenn.

Naval office of custom—Elmer E. Wood, district of New Orleans, La.

Collector of customs—Henry McCall, New Orleans, La.; John W. Howell, Ferandinda, Fla.; Fred Cubberty, St. Marks, Fla.; Thomas B. George. St. Thomas, Fla.; William Luce, St. Johns, Fla.

Second secretary of the embassy at Rome—Leonard M. Thomas, of Pennsylvania.

Pension agent—Richard P. Clarkson, at Des Moines, Ia.

Register of land office, Thomas Scaddon, at Marquette, Mich.

DELAY IN CANAL TREATY.

Washington, Dec. 6.—If Minister Hart at Bogota is correctly informed no treaty providing for the construction of the Panama canal can be ratified by the Colombian congress before about June 1, next. He has reported that the congressional elections have been called for the middle of next March and Colombians here say that a period of at least sixty days is required to assemble a newly elected congress, and then some time must elapse before it is in working order. Secretary Hay therefore has decided to allow the treaty to be ratified in Washington first.

12,000,000 BACTERIA.

Washington, Dec. 6.—Twelve million bacteria inhabit the skins of a half pound of cherries, according to Dr. Ehrlich, a German scientist, who has made extensive experiments in regard to the infection of fruit with bacteria. Currents come next with 11,000,000 to every half pound and grapes next with 8,000,000. An account of these experiments has been transmitted to the state department by U. S. Consular Clerk Murphy, at Frankfort. Dr. Ehrlich urges that all fruit be cleaned by either peeling or washing before it is eaten.

Exchange of Regiments.

Washington, Dec. 6.—The war department has issued an order providing for the exchange of the fifteen Philippine regiments with the same number of troops in the United States. The home troops will relieve the troops in the Philippines, the first ones leaving San Francisco February 1 next.

SECRETARY WILSON

Talks of the Growth of Agriculture in His Report.

Washington, Dec. 4.—"In the industrial progress made by the United States during recent years there has been no more conspicuous feature than the growth of agriculture," says Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson, in his report to the President. He gives figures, mainly taken from the last census, to prove his statement.

The amount of fixed capital invested in agriculture is about $20,000,000,000, or four times the amount invested in manufactures. More than half of the people of the United States live on farms, and more than a third of all the people engaged in gainful occupations work on farms. In one year the products of American farms have reached an aggregate value of nearly $5,000,000,000.

American brains supplied to American farms is what is causing the value of our farm exports to continue steadily on the increase, according to the secretary, and he sees the greatest hope for the future. "The science or agriculture," he says, "is in rudimentary stages in all lands. The education of producers from the field, so long neglected, has recently been undertaken in earnest in the United States. Our government is doing more for the farmer than all other nations combined. Results are justifying expenditures, and the future will still further show the value of science applied to the farm."

Secretary Wilson's display of the work of the department during the past year is almost bewildering, so many fields of investigation does it describe. It makes a volume of 121 pages, and there is hardly a page that does not report on at least two or three different enterprises undertaken in the search for facts that will enable agriculture to be more successfully carried on.

Some of the different kinds of work are touched upon by the secretary in the following paragraphs:

"Research by the department officials into the principles governing the growth of plants and the creation of new species by hybridizing to give varieties from which to select for new purposes has brought gratifying results. We have new fruits and grains of numerous kinds adapted to localities that have been needing them for many years.

"We are helping people in many localities to an intelligent knowledge of their soils and of the most profitable uses to which they may be devoted. Results are showing the value of this service. The best sugar lands, rice lands, tobacco lands, truck lands, and lands best adapted to particular fruits, grains, grasses, legumes, and other crops are being discovered as certainly as any other unknown thing is brought to human knowledge for the first time.

"Few of the plants of most value to our people are natives of the United States. They are products of other countries and have been useful in their localities for long periods of time. Our various soils and climates are adapted to many things that have not yet been introduced to them. Department explorers are searching the old world for whatever is valuable there and useful here, with results that are quite encouraging. Our aims are to help toward the production in the states and territories of everything their soils and climates will permit, and to help our new island possessions to grow whatever products require tropical conditions.

"Our growing commerce is accompanied with danger from invasion of animal and plant diseases and parasites calling for vigilance on the part of department scientists to keep them out and to deal with them when they cross our borders, as they occasionally do."

One method of aiding the farmers which the secretary is most anxious to avail himself of is the distribution of daily weather forecasts through all the rural free delivery postal routes. Of the 10,000 routes the department has been able to send forecasts over only 1,000, but the service has been so appreciated that an appropriation of $100,000 is asked to extend it.

One of the recommendations of the report favors an Appalachian forest reserve. Mr. Wilson makes the startling statement that the denudation of the mountain slopes has caused floods that for the twelve months ending April last caused a damage of $18,000,000. He says further that water power with an aggregate annual rental of $20,000,000 is being destroyed, that the land on the mountain slopes is being washed away more in a single year now than in ten centuries while the forests stood, and that the soil swept down is clogging the Ohio, Tennessee and Mississippi rivers in a way that will be most injurious to navigation. He earnestly urges the creation and preservation of forests on the mountains.

SUICIDE INSURANCE.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The United States supreme court today affirmed the opinion of the circuit court of appeals in the case of the Knights Templars and Masons' Life Insurance company vs. Rosa B. Jarman. The case involved the validity of the suicide statute of Missouri of 1879 providing that suicide shall not be a defense against the payment of a life insurance policy, the policy involved being upon the life of John P. Jarman, husband of Mrs. Rosa Jarman, who, while insane, took his life in Grundy county, Missouri, in 1898. The decision of the court sustained the law and held the company liable for the amount of the policy regardless of the act that the policy contained a clause for the avoidance of the policy in case of suicide, "whether voluntary or involuntary, sane or insane."

MINISTER BUCK DEAD.

Washington, Dec. 4.—The Japanese minister called at the state department today to communicate to Secretary Hay a cablegram he had received from the minister for foreign affairs at Tokio, today, stating that while Mr. Buck, the United Stateh minister to Japan, was on a hunting trip this morning, he was taken suddenly ill and expired.

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 4.—Hon. Alfred F. Buck was a native of Maine and was about 60 years of age. Many years ago he removed to Atlanta and became a leader in Republican politics in Georgia. For some years he served as United States marshal of Georgia. His last visit to Atlanta was made about one year ago.

A BURIED MEMORIAL.

Washington, Dec. 4.—A copy of the message sent to congress by the President, autographs of the Roosevelt children, specimens of United States coins and the chisel with which the mason did the work, have been sealed in a marble casket and deposited in a bed of cement beneath the floor of the main hallway of the White House. Covering the little treasure box was placed a marble slab, bearing the inscription, "1792-1902," in an eclipse of stars, one for each state of the union. The idea of making the deposit originated with the workmen employed on the interior finishings of the White House. While it had the approval of the President, he was not present at the sealing of the box.

Cruiser for a Training Ship.

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 6.—The cruiser Philadelphia, once one of the crack ships of the navy, is to be converted into a training Ship at the Puget Sound navy yard. It would have cost about a half million dollars to remodel the cruiser and bring her up to date. She will take the place of the training ship Nipsic, which is of a type now obsolete.

YOUNG HUNTER MAY FLEE

Expected That Slayer of Fitzgerald Will Escape.

Washington, Dec. 9.—It is expected here that W. Godfrey Hunter, Jr., son of United States Minister Hunter at Guatamala, who shot and killed W. A.

W. GODFREY HUNTER, JR.

Fitzgerald in Guatamala City, is expected will slip out of that country and return to the United States. His father has been succeeded by Leslie Combes as minister.

IMPORTANT LOTTERY CASE.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Bearing on the question of trusts and involving the right of congress to regulate commerce between the states, the lottery case, which came up for reargument today before the United States supreme court, is of special interest.

The case is that of Francis vs. United States. Francis was convicted in Cincinnati of carrying lottery tickets across the Ohio line into Kentucky. The question is whether congress can regulate interstate commerce to the extent of preventing lottery gambling by the aid of express companies. Coupled with this case is one from Chicago—Charles F. Champion vs. John C. Ames, United States marshal—which involves the constitutionality of the lottery act of 1895. Eminent lawyers and jurists regard the two cases as having decisive bearing on the future policy of courts and congress.

THE CATTLE EPIDEMIC.

Washington, Dec. 4.—Dr. Salmon, chief of the bureau of animal industry, who is in New England directing the work of stamping out the foot and mouth epidemic, reports in a telegram to Acting Secretary of Agriculture Moore that the situation is very serious and that there are about 3,000 cattle in herds known to be affected. New cases are constantly being found. Extensive outbreaks of the disease have occurred in Vermont, but Dr. Salmon believes the situation can be handled by slaughtering and disinfection there.

BIG FIRE IN ATLANTA.

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 9.—Fire destroyed nearly a block of buildings in the heart of the city today, and the loss is placed at $500,000. It started in the furniture store of the Snook & Austin company, in Whitehall street. A strong northwest wind sent showers of sparks in every direction. The fire soon spread to the Norcross building, on the corner of Marietta and Peachtree streets, and then to the large drug house of the Jacobs company, on Marietta street, the liquor store of the P. M. Rose company and the Williams hotel.

There was no loss of life so far as known, although Captain Joyner, chief of the fire department, expressed some apprehension for the safety of all the guests at the Williams hotel.

There was considerable excitement among the guests of the Kimball house, a half block away, as the sparks and flames were blowing in that direction, but the iron windows were closed and the guests suffered little inconvenience beyond the smoke in the building. The windows of the ten-story Peters building, completed less than six months ago, were cracked by the heat, and other damage was done to the structure. The Norcross building was filled with the offices of professional men and the entire sixth floor was used as a restaurant.

Lodgers Nearly Suffocated.

Bridgeport, Conn., Dec. 9.—By the ignition of a package of sulphur in a men's lodging house here early today the occupants of the place narrowly escaped death by suffocation. The fumes of the burning stuff filled the house, overcoming many of the lodgers. The police managed to grope their way through the smoke and opened windows, after which the unconscious men were carried into the open air, where all revived. It is not known how the sulphur was ignited.

HAWAIIAN NOTES.

Honolulu, Dec. 2, via San Francisco, Dec. 8.—The territorial senate today received and adopted a report of its special committee on the department of public works, approving the message of Governor Dole, in which he asked for the removal of Superintendent Boyd and made grave charges against him. This, with the removal of Auditor Austin, already accomplished, is thought to complete the removals of officials as a result of the recent scandals.

Chinese Minister Wu Ting Fang arrived in Honolulu last night as a through passenger to China on the steamship Hong Kong Maru. While here he met many of the locally prominent Chinese, and he had some severe comments to make on the way the exclusion act is enforced here.

EVIDENCE LACKING.

St. Louis, Dec. 4.—Henry Nicolaus, the millionaire brewer and director in the Suburban Street Railway company, who was on trial on the charge of bribery in connection with the passage of the suburban bill in the city council, was acquitted last evening by instruction from Judge Ryan, who sustained the demurrer of the defense, on the ground that the prosecution did not show knowledge of any criminal use that the $135,000 bribe money was put to.

Charles F. Kelly, former member of the house of delegates, arrived here yesterday afternoon in charge of detectives from Philadelphia, where he was arrested last week as a fugitive from justice. Kelly, who rests under several indictments, charging bribery, was taken to the Four Courts. He gave bail of $30,000 and went to his home.

BITTEN BY A SPIDER.

Santa Monica, Ca., Dec. 5.—Samuel Carson, aged 83 years, has been found dead in his hut far up in Santa Monica Canon. He had been bitten by a spider. He claimed to be a son of the renowned scout, "Kit" Carson. For many years the old man had lived at the head of Rustic Canon, with only his horses and dogs for company. Before taking up his abode in the mountains the stories are that Carson had a most picturesque career as a pioneer gold hunter, Indian fighter and adventurer.

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Our New General Catalogue No. 71 brings our 2,000,000 customers nearer than they have ever been before to the actual manufacturing cost of everything they eat, wear or use.

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has already begun. Retailers are advancing their prices for the holiday trade. Our prices are never advanced, our goods are of the very latest style and best quality, and our customers save one-fourth to one-half on the orders they send us.

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COAL TRUST.

Morgan's Anthracite Combine an Immense Corporation.

New York, Dec. 8.—J. Perpont Morgan's coal trust will rival the Northern Securities Company.

It is as prodigious in scope, and in some respects will outdo it. In planning the transaction the great financier reached out for all the anthracite properties in the country worth owning, and nine coal carrying roads.

The capital will be $400,000,000, and all the working will be on a mammoth scale. Mr. Morgan has already chosen his lieutenants and is ready to pay down $145,000,000 for the mines of the independent operators. He will control the huge "combine" as absolutely as other projects he handles and will be the real coal king of the United States.

President George F. Baer, of the Reading Railroad, also head of the New Jersey Central, who refused to accept the presidency of the Lehigh Valley, has promised Mr. Morgan to become head of the holding company of the trust. This statement is made positively by competent authority. Mr. Morgan wanted Mr. Baer to assume the presidency of the Lehigh Valley. There were two things in the way; first, Mr. Baer's refusal to take on any greater burden, and the lesser problem of a law which stood in the way. Mr. Baer said to Mr. Morgan:

"I cannot accept the presidency of the Lehigh Valley, because I now carry as great a burden as president of two operating roads as I can stand. When you want me to become president of a general corporation to control all the anthracite roads I shall be glad to accept, but I do not care to direct the individual operations of any roads other than those I now have in charge."

It is on the distinct understanding that Mr. Baer shall become the head that the new "combine" of coalroads is being evolved. The independent collieries will cost between $140,000,000 and $150,000,000.

The division by districts, the railroads which share in the distribution, the independent output, and valuation are as follows:

Scranton—Output, 3,861,372 tons; value, $25,000,000. Pittston—Output, 2,070,890 tons; value, $18,000,000; Erie, Delaware & Hudson and Central Railroad of New Jersey and D., L. & W. Harleton—Output, 5,354,574 tons; value, $38,000,000; Lehigh Valley and Pennsylvania. Schuylkill—Output, 6,152,890 tons; value, $50,000,000; Philadelphia & Reading, Lehigh Valley and Pennsylvania.

Total output this year, 18,361,708 tons; value, $145,000,000.

Total output for 1901, 59,905,951 tons.

SAGASTA HAS RESIGNED.

Madrid, Dec. 3.—Premier Sagasta has resigned. Senor Sagasta had an audience with King Alfonso this morning, at which he presented his resignation and intimated that the step was irrevocable. He informed the king that the opposition had treated him with distrust and discourtesy, which he did not deserve. His majesty will not decide on the course he will pursue until tomorrow.

The Spanish cabinet suffered a defeat in the chamber of deputies yesterday, by the adoption of a motion of censure of the minister of marine for authorizing the contract for the construction of two new training ships without previously obtaining the consent of the cortes.

The resignation of the cabinet was then considered imminent and there was some talk of a new ministry being formed under the leadership of Senor Montero Rios and the Duke of Tetuan. The cabinet which has just resigned was formed by Senor Sagasta on November 14 last.

FOR A TARIFF WAR.

Berlin, Dec. 6.—Baron Heyl Von Herrensheim, Count Von Kanitz and Baron Von Waldorf, together with sixty-four Conservative, National Liberal and anti-Semite members of the reichstag, introduced a resolution yesterday directly aimed at the United States. The resolution asks Chancellor Von Buelow, before renewing the commercial treaties, to serve notice on any country not giving German goods fair reciprocity treatment that the existing most favored nation privileges will be discontinued in its case when the general commercial treaties are renewed.

Liberal critics point out that if this leads to a tariff war Germany will get worsted, since the United States is able to get manufactured goods from England and France, which Germany is now supplying, whereas Germany must have American raw materials, petroleum, etc.

PROHIBITION LOST.

Toronto, Ont. Dec. 6.—Though the returns of the voting on the Ontario liquor act of 1902 known as the prohibition bill, are coming in slowly, enough is known to insure its defeat. It is predicted the final returns will stand approximately 165,000 for and 125,000 against the measure. As it was provided that the majority should constitute more than one-half of the total vote polled the result will be a victory for the anti-prohibitionists, though morally it will be a victory for the temperance people.

The latter have already planned to demand at the next session of the legislature additional restrictions on the liquor trade. This scheme has been forestalled, to a great extent, by the announcement officially made by Premier Ross that the vote warrants his government introducing at the opening of the session in February legislation to close all the barrooms in the province.

The Thomas Coming.

San Francisco, Dec. 6.—The transport Thomas, now on the way from Manila and Nagasaki, is expected to reach port on December 21. On board are 779 discharged men, 122 casuals and 62 sick men. The number of discharged soldiers is unusually large. The transport Sheridan is scheduled to sail from this port for Manila on the first day of the year.

DISASTROUS RAIL WRECK

Santa Fe Flyer Runs Into an Open Switch.

Kansas City, Dec. 9.—The westbound California limited passenger train on the Santa Fe, was wrecked at Rothville, Mo., yesterday, causing the death of Engineer Samuel Wise, and his fireman, Alexander Havelin, of Topeka. John McKean, of New York, who received slight bruises, was the only passenger injured. Three colored waiters were injured, but not fatally. Congressman Loud, of California, and Rabbi Hirsch, of Chicago, were among the passengers, and helped to care for the injured. The wreck was caused by the derailment of the coaches on an open switch, which the engine had passed safely, the train going at a high rate of speed. The train was almost demolished.

AGAINST KISSING.

Richmond, Va., Dec. 3.—Kissing spreads diseases, according to the view of Dr. R. B. Ware, a member of the Virginia legislature. To prevent epidemics in future he introduced a bill to prevent indiscriminate osculation. The bill says:

"If a physician testifies that the defendant has weak lungs he shall be found guilty of a misdemeanor and the same penalty shall be imposed as if he had some contagious or infectious disease.

"Any person violating the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and fined not less than one dollar nor more than five for each offense."

MILLION-DOLLAR BABY.

Butte, Mont., Dec. 4.—A son has been born to the wife of W. A. Clark, jr., winning the $1,000,000 gift which Senator W. A. Clark offered to his sons and daughters a year ago for the first grandson presented to him.

His youngest daughter, Mrs. Morris, in New York, recently gave birth to a daughter. Senator Clark, who is in Paris, has been informed by a cable dispatch of the arrival of the prize winner.

The Markets.

WEEKLY TRADE REVIEW.

New York, Dec. 6.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review says:

"Aside from the interruption to retail trade in winter goods at many points by unseasonable weather, business activity continues in excess of previous years, and it is probable that all the postponed trade will be made up now that low temperature has become general. While the warmest November on record at the east affected sales of clothing, it helped to restore the fuel equilibrium. Manufacturing plants are well engaged, and an evidence of the successful season is found in much larger Fall River dividends.

The course of commodity prices is shown by Dun's index number, which was $100,449 on December 1, against $99,579 on November 1, and $101,378 on December 1, 1901. Higher prices for dairy and garden products account for the rise during November, but it is particularly gratifying to the consumer that the present level is nearly 1 per cent lower than at the corresponding date last year. This change is also in foodstuffs, where the cost of living was abnormally expanded by short crops in 1901.

Cotton mills have light stocks and the demand, although quiet, is sufficient to prevent accumulation of goods in first hands. Export trade in heavy brown cottons is unsatisfactory. Reorder demands for light weight woolens are limited, and there is much conservatism in placing spring business because of the slowness with which seasonable goods are moving. Owing to heavy initial orders, however, mills are busy. A further advance in raw wool gives a better value to the finished product, but selling prices are without alteration. New orders for spring shoes are still coming forward, although the bulk of the season's contracts have been closed at New England shops, and some plants are assured of full occupation until April.

Irregularity is reported in the iron and steel market, most departments having much business, while a few are seeking new orders and seem disposed to make slight concessions. Stability is naturally most conspicuous in those divisions where it has been possible to prevent inflation, etc., while in cases of extreme pressure and high premiums for early delivery, the imports that have been attracted hither have a demoralizing influence. In view of the scarcity of coke, it is not easy for domestic producers to meet this foreign competition, and when any material reduction is made it may be found that foreign concerns will also cut prices. Thus far, however, only a slight tendency is noted in the direction of cheaper iron, and in such products as steel rails and structural material the consumer cannot hope for early concessions. As it is well known that much business is held back by high prices, there is no prospect of dullness in the near future. Any decided reduction of quotations would bring out these postponed orders. Consequently the only disturbing feature in this industry continues to be the inadequate supply of fuel, and even the most sanguine do not anticipate a return of normal conditions before spring.

Farm products are remarkably well sustained, considering the liberal quantities moving to market.

Statistics of failures during November disclose no weakness in the industrial structure. On the contrary, there is every evidence of strength.

OHIO CROPS.

Columbus, O., Dec. 6.—The state crop bulletin for December 1, shows that the wheat condition has improved 4 per cent since November 1, and is now 91 per cent; 42 per cent of this year's crop was sold from the threshers. Hessian fly has damaged the crop 5 per cent and grubs 1 per cent. The corn yield this year was 118,418,321 bushels, or 37.3 bushels per acre. The potato yield was 94 bushels per acre. Tobacco, 785 pounds per acre. The clover seed area was slightly larger than last year, but the product is about the same as last year, 1.49 bushels per acre.

THE GRAIN MARKETS.

Toledo, Dec. 9.—Close.—Small receipts and higher cables were today like yesterday, the influential features in a higher opening in wheat. The English cables were ⅝c up, and Paris was also a shade higher. The weather is a bit more mild throughout the country. The forecast indicates light snows for the middle and northwest on Wednesday. Bradstreet's figures show an increase of 1,800,000. Foreigners are buying grain in New York and took 42 loads before noon today. The Frisco market is booming again after a six cent break and stocks there are only about one-half of last year's. The clearances of wheat and flour today were 807,000. Both cash and December wheat opened ¼c up and as the session progressed advanced another ¼c. May wheat opened ⅛@¼c higher and on the advance made a total gain of ⅝c. The primary receipts today were 872,000; last week, 1,829,000; last year, 1,061,000. Shipments, 288,000; last week, 846,000; last year, 191,000. As the sesion progressed the export business spread to 100 loads with rumors of 120. The New York market was very strong today and the December option closed 2½c down over last night and about 3c over the May option. Under ordinary circumstances May figures about 2c over the December, so it can be readily observed that there is plenty of strength. The New York stocks are only about two and one-half millions, and the big export trade will pull this figure down considerable.

Corn was a strong feature of the market today. The cables were ¼c higher and that assisted the coarse grain to open strong. Armour, of Chicago, moved into the corn pit this morning and took about a million and a half. He readily bought all the offerings which were held out on good weather. The clearances of corn today were 120,000. There was some covering by shorts, which helped prices on the upturn. December opened ¼c to 1c higher and held steady around 45c. May opened ⅜c higher at 44¼c, advancing later to 44½c. Primary receipts were 631,000; last week, 679,000; last year, 600,000; shipments 288,000; last week, 287,000; last year, 277,000. December closed at 46c, a top-notch price, and 1¼c above yesterday's close. May finished at 44⅝c, ¾c higher.

Oats were dull this morning, but sustained the advance made yesterday. The opening was unchanged, but May later rallied to the extent of ¼c. Clearances af oats today were 16,000 bushels. The close was very quiet with values of both options unchanged.

The seed market was weak at the opening again today. January lost 5c and May 5@7½c. There was some selling on stop-orders, but there was god buying later, which caused a reaction, and both options made a recovery. Receipts of seed today, 285 bags; no shipments; receipts last year, 440 bags; no shipments. At the close prices were unchanged from yesterday. Estimated receipts for tomorrow, 500 bags.

TOLEDO.

	Open.	High.	Low.	Today Close.	Dec. 9 Close.
Wheat—					
Cash	77¼	78	77½	78a	77
Dec	77¼	78	77¼	78a	77
May	80¾	81¼	80¾	81¼	80
Corn—					
Dec	46@45	....	....	46	44⅝
May	44¼	44⅝	44½	44⅝	43⅝
Oats—					
Dec	33n	....	....	33	33
May	34n	34¼	34	34	34
Clover Seed—					
Dec	....	....	....	$6.57½	$6.57½
Jan	6.57½	6.62½	6.55	6.62½	6.62½
Mch	6.62½	6.67½	6.60	6.67½	6.67½
Rye—No. 2, 52.					
Timothy—Prime, $1.75.					
Alsike—Prime, $5.25.					

CHICAGO.

Wheat—					
Dec	73½	76¼	73½	76	73⅝
May	76¼	77	76⅞	77a	74⅞
July	73½	74⅝	73⅜	74¼	73¼
Corn—					
Dec	55	55¼	54½	55¼	55
May	43⅝	44⅜	43⅝	43⅝a	43¾a
July	42¼	43	42¼	42⅝	42⅝b
Oats—					
Dec	31½	32	31⅜	32	31⅜¼
May	33	33⅝	32⅞	33⅜	32

NEW YORK.

Wheat—					
Dec	82	83¾b	82	82⅝b	81¼
May	80¾	81	80	80⅞	79¾
Corn—					
Dec	61¾	62	61¼	61¼	61⅜
May	49a	49⅝b	49	49¼	48⅞

ST. LOUIS.

Wheat—					
Dec	69¾	71	69¾	71	69½b
May	74⅞-5	76	76⅞	76	74⅜b

MINNEAPOLIS.

Wheat—					
Dec	....	....	....	73¼	72⅜½
May	....	....	....	75¼	74⅜¾

DULUTH.

Wheat—					
Dec	....	....	....	72⅝b	71⅝b
May	....	....	....	75⅝b	74⅝¾

CHICAGO PROVISIONS.

Pork—					
Jan	16.32	17.00	16.32	16.95	16.35
May	15.30	15.70	15.30	15.70	15.32
Lard—					
Dec	10.20	10.47b	10.30	10.47b	10.32
Jan	9.75-77	10.00	9.75	9.90	9.77b
May	8.95	9.15	8.95	9.12	8.95-97
Ribs—					
Jan	8.37-40	8.55	8.37	8.55	8.35-37
May	8.20-22	8.40	8.20	8.40	8.17-20

MONEY AND STOCKS.

New York, Dec. 9.—Noon.—Money on call firm at 6 per cent. Prime mercantile paper, 6 per cent. Sterling exchange steady, with actual business in bankers' bills at 487.85 for demand, and at 483.50@483.625 for 60 days; posted rates, 484¼@488; commercial bills, 483.25@483.75. Bar silver, 47¾c. Mexican dollars, 37c.

New York, Dec. 9.—Wall street.—The stocks dealt in at the opening showed ins